

**The Acton Free Press**  
Published Every Thursday at Acton, Ontario  
Authorized as second class mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

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**EDITORIAL**

**Little Visible Return**

It appears to us that in travelling the highways of Ontario this year, never was so little given the motorist for the taxation he or she is called upon to assume. When one considers that license fees are on the same level and that added to this the Ontario Government collects 10 cents on every gallon of gasoline or one-quarter of the whole cost of all that goes in for fuel it would seem that with such revenue the Department of Highways could give at least an adequate maintenance of present roadways even if no new construction is undertaken.

In years when the taxes were much less than at present, one would see crews at work on maintenance on most every road. This summer they are conspicuous by their absence. Repair work of any consequence drags on not for one season but for two or three. As an example the replacing of the bridge at Tansley on the Dundas Highway has been so slow that the present arrangement of single line traffic is permanent. We suppose the excuse would be shortages, but there seems no shortages in the big buildings being erected in Toronto on King Street.

An accounting of receipts and expenditures of the highway department would prove interesting if it was made understandable and translated into terms of how much is collected from motorists and how little is given in return; how much time is devoted to planning and how little to actual work. On No. 25 Highway, the surveyors are still looking for the eighth year and the banks have been sodded. On No. 10 near Brampton, repairs necessitated by winter damage are being made in August. These are examples close at home. They can be duplicated all over Ontario.

**A Unique Family Journal**

Not many newspapers can mark such an anniversary as did the Bowmanville Statesman last week. For seventy years this outstanding weekly newspaper has been under the management of the James family. It was purchased in 1878 by M. A. James who was succeeded in 1919 by his sons Norman and George James. The partnership of the two sons was interrupted by the death of Norman in 1929. His son, John M. James, after concluding his military career in World War 2, assumed the partnership two years ago.

Founded in 1854 the Statesman has had but four editors, but during the years the journal has absorbed several papers in Bowmanville and the district. Evidence of splendid community service of the family newspaper is to be found in the number of awards the Bowmanville Statesman has won in newspaper competitions. The James family have been successful in the weekly newspaper field and the third generation is today carrying on the splendid traditions of giving the community the best in newspaper service. We join with other editors in wishing many more years of guidance of the newspaper at Bowmanville with the James family.

**Not in the Public Welfare**

To those who like to see orderly conduct of affairs and know full well that government ownership of public affairs is not as efficient or as reliable as private direction, the decision of the Australian courts in declaring the proposed nationalization of the banks as unconstitutional, will come as welcome news. Until nationalization of any business proves more efficient than present day examples it would be well to call a halt for examination of these funny money schemes such as proposed by Australia and formerly experimented with unsuccessfully in Alberta.

The Australian courts in ruling the government's proposed nationalization of commercial

banking unconstitutional, held the legislation to be contrary to a section of the Constitution which says that trade between the states shall be absolutely free.

Commenting on the judgment, Robert Rae, President of the Canadian Bankers Association said: "While the constitutional relationship in regard to Australian banking is not on all fours with Canada, no doubt the essential principle on which the judgment was based is common to both countries. This is that government ownership of commercial banking jeopardizes its present impartiality and potentially interferes with freedom of commerce. That principle applies equally to Canada. Once Bank credits accommodation is made subject to sterling or direction based on political consideration of a party in power, or even opened to that possibility, freedom of commerce or of any kind of trade is beyond all effective guarantee. Availability of bank credit does not now depend even the slightest degree on political credit or social doctrine. It never should. In Australia, too, there was a manifest feat of political intrusions into the money affairs of the private individual. This fear became so potent that the socialist government actually sought to allay it by writing a provision into the proposed legislation. My information is that it quite signally failed to raise the hard-headed depositors and borrowers of Australia."

**National Holidays on Monday**

Celebrate all national holidays on Mondays, urges the Financial Post, which states: Circulating among Canadian trade associations is a resolution calling upon the Dominion Government to have all national holidays celebrated on a Monday. This is a sound suggestion and it should be heeded.

The present hit or miss system when Empire Day or Dominion Day may come in the middle of the week has really nothing to commend it. There is little historic significance about the actual dates, we use now.

Aside from the very considerable dislocation for industry and business when a national holiday falls in the middle of the week, there is a most important human factor. Added to the week-end, the extra day gives a real break and a chance to get away from routine, to the average worker and his family. Coming in the middle of the week, it is merely a day when one stays around home rather than going to the office or plant.

**Short On Courtesy**

A breakdown of early figures of a survey of American tourist opinion of Canadian motorists manner and habits, being conducted by research, reveals that only 5.6% of American visitors give Canadian drivers a "good" rating for courtesy on the road; only 22% say Canadian drivers are "fairly" courteous; and 6% declare Canadian motorists are downright discourteous. The balance had no comment to make.

The huge influx of American tourist-motorists have no higher opinion of Canadians as safe drivers than they have of their motoring manners. Those interviewed in the first weeks of the survey gave this unflattering opinion for the record: Only 45.2% of Americans interviewed said Canadians are "good" in safe driving ability; Only 22% said Canadians were "a fair risk" as drivers; and 9.6% thought Canadian drivers were definitely dangerous.

The safety habits of pedestrians in Ontario were rated "good" by 46% of the Americans interviewed, "fair" by 27.2%, and "poor" by 11.6%. Two particularly bad Canadian driving habits were scored; straddling traffic lanes; failing to give signals before turns. Both are held by motorists everywhere to denote lack of driving consideration.

**EDITORIAL NOTES**

License numbers on cars these days show those of our neighbours from the United States sometimes in greater numbers than those from Ontario.

Time now to get ready for Acton Fair. Plan your exhibits. Get ready to take part in this fine community show-window of agriculture of the district.

We're an impatient lot of people. No sooner did the Liberals elect a new leader until some were urging that Mr. St. Laurent take over immediately.

Seems hard to realize that the Canadian National Exhibition opens in a week and that school re-opening will follow just a week or so later. Summer is almost over.

**Recollections of Acton BACK IN 1898**

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of August 18th, 1898

Acton pupils are evidently studious. Every pupil from this place who wrote at the first and second form examinations at Georgetown High School and Guelph Collegiate Institute was successful. We're proud of our young men and maidens.

The present season's peel of hemlock bark is now being shipped here in large quantities and Messrs. Beardmore and Co.'s bark gang and teams are busily engaged in handling it. Very few realize how much hemlock bark our big tanneries use. They grind an average of 36 cords every working day, equal to four and one-sixth cars per day.

The country schools re-opened on Monday with teachers and pupils in excellent spirits after the summer holidays.

The store and contents of Mr. Murray Crawford, Campbellville, were destroyed by fire on Saturday last.

**MARRIED**  
McLELLAN - McDONALD — In Acton on Wednesday, 10th of August, Dan McLellan, Toronto, to Miss McDonald, daughter of C. J. McDonald, Esq.

**BACK IN 1928**

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, August 23, 1928

New corn from the local gardens is now on the family menu.

Mr. John Walters, formerly of Acton, won the prize for being the oldest man at the Georgetown Business Men's Picnic last week. Mr. Walters is 90 years of age.

A social evening in the United Church on Mon. was in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Scott and Miss Laura and Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Henderson and family who are removing from Acton. Presentations were made during the evening.

Will Ross, of Toronto, formerly of Acton, was a member of the Argonaut eight rowing team which represented Canada at the Olympic games at Amsterdam.

The first reunion of the Dobble clan was held at Blue Spring Park last Saturday. There were 125 present representing 41 families descendants of the late Andrew Dobble who came from Scotland in 1812 and settled at the Scoton Block. It is planned to hold the event next year.

**MARRIED**  
BAXTER-MOWAT—At the United Church, Acton, on Saturday, August 18th, 1928, by the Rev. C. L. Poole, B.D., Olive Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Mowat, Acton, to Mr. Lawrence Henry Baxter, of Chatham son of Mrs. H. E. Baxter and the late Mr. Baxter of Hamilton.

**MILTON**

Friends learned with regret this week of the sudden passing of Rev. Mr. J. N. Neil, Mr. Neil was for many years minister of the Hornby Ashgrove and Bethel churches. He is survived by his wife and children.

Pink and white roses and fern decorated St. George's Church, Lowville on July 24th for the marriage of Alice Evelyn daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Stokes to Martin Alexander Snyder son of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Snyder of Hamilton. Rev. J. G. Hodder officiated.

The resignation of D. A. Mason as Chief of Police was accepted by Council to take effect immediately. The Clerk was instructed to contact Ex-Sgt. D. L. Caniff of Hamilton who had made application for the position. —Canadian Champion.

**HOWLER**

The grandfather of one Canadian Politician may be turning in his grave if he knows how his fame is being overshadowed by the acts of his grandson.

One second-form pupil in a recent history examination answering a question about the Family Compact produced the following answer:

"The Family Compact is an arrangement by which the Government gives aid to those with large families."

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Office in Symon Block, Mill St., Acton  
Office Phone 78—Residence Church St., Phone 150

DR. D. A. GARRETT  
Physician and Surgeon  
Frederick Street, Acton  
Formerly Dr. Nelson's office  
Office Phone 238 Residence 2428

**DENTAL**  
DR. A. J. BUCHANAN  
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Office—Leshman Block, Mill St.  
Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
X-RAY  
(TELEPHONE 148)

DR. GEORGE A. SIRRS  
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Mill St., corner Frederick, Acton  
Office Hours: 9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.  
TELEPHONE 19

L. WILSON  
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Electro-Therapist  
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Acton  
Phone 303  
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Eastbound  
6:41 a.m.; 7:41 a.m.; 8:56 a.m.; 11:46 a.m.; 2:06 p.m.; 4:41 p.m.; 6:31 p.m.; 8:26 p.m.; 10:56 p.m.  
Westbound  
To Stratford—10:44 a.m.; 12:44 p.m.; 2:59 p.m.; 5:29 p.m.; 7:24 p.m.; 8:14 p.m.; 9:14 p.m.  
To London—10:44 a.m.; 2:59 p.m.; 6:52 p.m.; 7:24 p.m.; 8:14 p.m.  
a Except Sundays and Holidays.  
b Sunday and Holidays.  
c Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.  
d To Kitchener daily, to Stratford Sunday and Holidays.  
e To Kitchener only.

**RAILWAYS**  
CANADIAN NATIONAL  
(Standard Time)  
Eastbound  
Daily except Sundays 5:55 a.m.; 9:48 a.m.; 7:10 p.m.; Sunday only, 8:19 p.m.; Daily except Sunday, Flyer at Georgetown, 6:37 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 Sunday, 8:47 a.m.; 6:50 p.m.; 7:41 p.m.; Saturday only, 1:36 p.m.; Sunday only, 8:43 a.m. Flyer at Georgetown, 6:10 p.m.

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