

EDITORIAL

Acton's Future

Acton is an industrial town and on that basis it has continued to progress. Things are considered good now and municipal development is taking place. All these improvements provide better living conditions and result in an attractive community which, in turn, draws new industry.

Besides these municipal improvements other attractive features are being added to Acton's position that few seem to realize. This town is in the fringe area of Ontario's most industrialized section according to the recent Star Weekly article.

Completion of the paving on Highway 25 will put Acton at the junction of a south-east-west highway. Main and Mill street, where No. 7 highway joins No. 25, will be an important point.

A school addition, sewerage system, and abundant water supply are some of the municipal developments in store for Acton and its future.

The St. Lawrence Seaway may even affect Acton since shipments can be made by local industry over rail or road to a shipping centre. From this shipping centre, which might be Hamilton or Toronto, industry could ship by water, utilizing the cheaper method and avoiding long expensive hauls.

The Toronto-Windsor highway will be located within a few miles of Acton and will provide another important link for shipping.

Acton has a bright future if men and nations avoid unnecessary war. Canada's small towns are her backbone and Canada is an important nation.

Are You Reading?

We're glad to have you with us in this editorial column, those of you who are reading these words. A poll proved not long ago that only one-third of the readers of the weekly papers spend time on the editorials—and yet the papers that do not have them seem strangely impersonal, and disintegrated with no unifying element.

At the risk of being a little "hammy"—perhaps it's that spring invites poetic feeling—we state that the editorial page is the soul of a newspaper. It proves that the other pages, too, with their news articles and advertisements, all have human hands and minds behind them that are concerned with this town. A paper without an editorial column is just a robot.

Practically all the people read the columns of what went on in town fifty and twenty years ago. And we just hope that from this column the eyes of that two-thirds who skip the editorials might slip across just once in awhile.

Editorials, especially in a town weekly, are not written to cause trouble or condemn. Their aim is to build up the district, to support worthy projects, to explain things we feel readers are interested in or should know. Their purpose, as one editor put it, is to indicate that "life is more than the food we eat."

Thanks for reading—we hope to have you with us here often.

Worse Taxes

If some of the ancient laws of taxation were still in effect, you might just now be arriving back from having paid your taxes. Sending off the forms and money orders in fine spring weather, most of us forgot the reason that Jesus Christ was born at Bethlehem—Mary and Joseph had to travel from Nazareth back to the place of their birth to pay their taxes. "And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria). And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city." Luke 2: 1-3.

Some in town would certainly have more to complain about if that law still held. We imagine there would have been some letters to the editor and to members of parliament!

It was in ancient Judea too that the taxes were set at twenty per cent. of the householders' income. There were no columns for exemptions, for dependents, or deterioration. You just paid the tax collector one-fifth or faced a worse fate than our department of national revenue would consider.

In Egypt and Syria things were even worse. The taxes were put up to auction. The highest bidder paid the king and then went out to collect as much as he possibly could, regardless of the condition of the people. And they were generally successful in collecting a great deal—they travelled heavily armed.

Once the taxes in Syria included direct tribute, excise duty on salt, crown taxes, one-third of all the fruit trees, a tax on cattle and a tax on all places of amusement.

So the burden has existed all through history ranging from fair to bad and from bad to worse. Our taxes have been worked out and sent away in the usual mood of glumness—but perhaps they weren't so bad after all.

Undated May 24th

When is the 24th of May not the 24th of May? It's up to you. Evidently again this year the actual holiday is left up to the individuals. It is simple enough to agree that Dominion Day be celebrated on the nearest Friday or Monday. When New Year's Day and Christmas Day fall on the week-ends we feel no incongruity in taking a week day as a holiday to compensate.

In the cases of holidays on which an official adjustment has been established there is no feeling of difficulty in adjusting to the change. We can prefer celebrating the first of July on the second as we will later this summer, and later will be glad that Labor Day is always a Monday.

It is generally agreed that it is the most convenient time and certainly the most agreeable when it makes a long week-end.

Yet year after year there is no decision made to establish the simple fact that the 24th of May would be more appreciated on the closest Monday or Friday. We prefer our holidays located strategically—and the office of this paper will be open on the 24th of May and celebrating Queen Victoria's birthday on Friday.

Fire Co-operation

Do you realize that when you hear the town's fire siren, or see the fire truck speeding on a call that the equipment is yours? paid for with your money? and to help protect your property? The men handling it are trained to do so, but cannot do a successful job without your co-operation. When you follow a fire truck, or precede one to a fire you may delay it, and in some cases prevent the local fire fighters getting through in time to save property and perhaps even life. This is especially so in cases of snowbound, single lane roads, dead-end streets, etc.

Therefore, if you must go to the fire, stay back until the firemen and equipment are there, and stay out of their way when you do get there. If the town firemen need help they'll ask for it. Above all, park your own vehicle so that fire fighters can get through with other equipment if necessary. Remember—it could be your property. Would you appreciate some other person delaying firemen and apparatus from coming to your fire?

It is your equipment paid for with your money, to protect your property. Help the firemen by staying clear.

Let's Look At Crime

The Kefauver Crime commission that friends across the border have been viewing on television with so much interest, really started something. It is not quite clear whether everyone wants to "get back into the act" or not, but with television's novelty and the Kefauver crime investigation's popularity, no doubt many hopeful actors look at it as a means to an end.

For instance, how many minor politicians in small towns across Canada have been spouting on the necessity of an immediate crime probe in their otherwise peaceful communities.

Perhaps it wasn't Kefauver who started the crime investigation fad either—perhaps it was the Windsor disturbance of last year. Whoever started it ignited a fast spreading fire that seems to be quite interesting to spectators.

The present Ontario investigation is apparently aimed at the police. Many interesting things have developed and more seem in store but the investigation seems worth while.

One of the important things that bothers us is the expense of the investigations of this and other natures and the use made of the findings. The Hope Commission on education spent some five years preparing many thousand words and all at great cost. Results of suggestions made by that commission have been hard to find although there are some. The big fear is that before the best of the suggestions are carried out there will need to be another investigation into the first to see if there are not better ideas available.

Investigations are, in general, a healthy sign of democracy but let us not adopt them in fad fashion. We don't need the Attorney General to investigate local systems.

Editorial Notes

The only way to break yourself of the borrowing habit is to pay back.

A cab company official says taxi drivers lead a monotonous life. Perhaps because they never have any change.

A new ordinance in an Ohio town prohibits dogs from barking, yelping, howling and trespassing. Some of us should lead a dog's life.

A survey shows that it costs \$10,000 to rear a child to the age of 18. Can you name a better investment?



"THE DOC TELLS ME I GOTTA REDUCE."



THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

BACK IN 1901

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, May 16th, 1901

The council met on Monday evening as per adjournment. The tenders for the \$4000 four per cent consolidated debt debentures were opened.

The sale of the new debentures of this municipality at a premium is another favorable criterion of Acton's splendid financial standing. Acton has gilt-edged credit in the money market and the reason for this no doubt is the fact that we have no arrears in payment of existing debenture and credit.

Snow and hail accompanied the thunderstorm last Sunday afternoon and cooler weather followed.

Mr. F. Gleb, the new miller, is evidently well satisfied with his investment in the Acton Flour Mills, for he has purchased the fine property of Mr. John Harvey at the corner of Mill St. and Park Ave., and will erect thereon a fine brick residence.

The curfew by-law did not come up for consideration at Monday evening's council meeting. This was probably owing to the pressure of the other important business. The council is morally bound to take the matter up and they will no doubt do so at an early date.

The seventh annual convention of the Guelph district Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Church was held here last Thursday. Mrs. Easton, president of the Acton Auxiliary, Mrs. Rev. Hagar and Mrs. Harris of Rockwood addressed the gathering.

Fairy Lake presents a very attractive appearance. The water is higher than usual and boating is a delightful pastime engaged in by a number of citizens.

Glad wedding bells rang yesterday at Ballinacree with music which was especially delightful to two young hearts well known and highly esteemed here. Mr. Stafford Z. Bennett of Miss Susie Robertson, formerly of this vicinity but lately of Arden, Manitoba, were united in the bonds of holy wedlock at Toronto.

The machinery in the Canada Glove Works was closed down on Monday for repairs to the engine.

Several of our citizens who have electric light installed are putting in meters.

Secretary Reports Recent Activities

Recent work of the Y.M.C.A. and future plans were reported at the last regular meeting of the Y. Board on Monday, May 7th, at the home of Dick Bean. A nominating committee was reported by the president to replace those who retire from the board this year. It was suggested that the number on the board be increased from 9 to 12 members. This will be voted on at the annual meeting to be held later in May.

The secretary of the Y. Cliff Sutton, gave his usual report. He explained that the large-scale circus would not be held this year but that there would be an open house this month. Demonstrations and a variety program are planned.

Plans for the centennial of the Y were discussed with the prospect of sending a delegate to Cleveland from Acton.

He mentioned that the lounge remaining a popular spot for young Y members and reported on the senior craft club which has classes in sewing, metal work and art at present.

BACK IN 1931

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, May 14, 1931

In a softball game played at Rockwood yesterday between Rockwood and Acton High Schools, Acton won by the score of 15-8.

The "Regulars" beat the "Yanigans" in the practice game of hard ball last Saturday by a 9-4 score.

The Hockey Club annual meeting was well attended and a very interesting and profitable meeting was held in the interests of this sport in the community.

The Acton Women's Institute held the annual meeting at the home of Mrs. J. Dobbie, Sr. The new officers for 1931-32 are President, Mrs. E. J. Gamble, First Vice Pres., Mrs. T. Lappin, Second Vice Pres., Mrs. W. J. Hall, Secretary Treasurer, Mrs. R. L. Davidson.

The spring meeting of the Presbyterian Church of Guelph of the Presbyterian Church was held in Knox Church in conjunction with the spring meeting of the Women's Missionary Society Presbyterial of Guelph. Over 200 attended and splendid sessions were held at both gatherings.

The Halton Presbytery of the United Church met in the United Church on Tuesday.

Acton W.C.T.U. is doing important and impressive temperance work year after year in competitions arranged in the Public and High Schools. Prize winners for oratory, competitions and posters were presented last Friday evening at a public contest held in Knox church.

DIED
ATKINSON—At her home, Agnes Street, Acton, on Thursday, May 14, 1931 Mary Elizabeth Cripps, widow of the late Henry Atkinson in her 88th year.

To Build Bridges In Erin Township

The report of Erin Township's road and bridge committee, recommending that two new bridges be built, was accepted at the last regular meeting of Erin Township Council at Hillsburg on May 7th. Reeve Goldwin Burt presided at the meeting with all members present.

The Road and Bridge Committee appointed to inspect the roads and bridges throughout the Township had met on Thursday, May 3rd and made a number of recommendations as to where construction, ditching, trimming, etc. should be made to put the roads in fair condition. Two bridges will be built, one on the fifth line opposite Lot 10, and the other on Erin and Caledon Boundary opposite Lot 20.

The report of the committee was received on motion of Mr. Wheeler and Mr. Swackhamer.

Resolutions were passed as follows, "that the township co-operate with the county in cleaning up and repairing one of the neglected or abandoned cemeteries in the Township each year provided that the trustees and those interested co-operate."

The treasurer was instructed to proceed with the tax sale of lands that are three or more years in arrears.

Accounts were presented and the treasurer was instructed to make payment of same: general accounts, \$143.28; Sheep, \$52.00; Relief, \$144.52; Roads, \$2,006.36

It would take 53 years for an airplane, travelling 200 miles per hour, to go from the earth to the sun.

AT THE Churches

United Church of Canada

Acton, Ontario
A FRIENDLY CHURCH
Parsonage—29 Bower Avenue
Phone 60

Rev. E. A. Carrey, B.A., B.D., Minister
Miss G. M. Langford, A.T.C.M., Organist and Choir Leader

SUNDAY, MAY 20th, 1951
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School
11.00 a.m.—Morning Service
7.00 p.m.—Evening Service

Presbyterian Church in Canada

KNOX CHURCH, ACTON
REV. ROBERT H. ARMSTRONG
M.A., B.D., Minister

SUNDAY, MAY 20th, 1951
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School
11.00 a.m.—Divine Worship
7.00 p.m.—Divine Worship
ALL ARE WELCOME

St. Alban's Church

(Anglican)
Rector—Rev. W. G. Lutton, B.A.

SUNDAY, MAY 20th, 1951

10.00 a.m.—Sunday School
11.00 a.m.—Holy Communion and Beginners' Class
7.00 p.m.—Evening Prayer

Confirmation Service, Sunday, May 27 at 11 a.m.

A Welcome Awaits You

Baptist Church

ACTON

SUNDAY, MAY 20th, 1951

10.30 a.m.—Sunday School and Bible Class
11.30 a.m.—Morning Service
7.00 p.m.—Evening Service

Week night meetings

Friday—4 p.m., Mission Band for primary; 4.30 p.m., Mission Band for older classes; 8 p.m., B.Y.P.U.
8.30 p.m.—Inter-church fire drill.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLER'S GUIDE

MEDICAL	MISCELLANEOUS
<p>DR. W. G. C. KENNEY Physician and Surgeon (Successor to Dr. J. A. McEwen) Office in Symon Block, Mill St., Acton Office Phone 78 Residence Church St. Phone 158</p> <p>DR. D. A. GARRETT Physician and Surgeon Corner of Willow and River Sts. Entrance River Street Acton, Ontario Phone 238</p> <p>DR. A. J. BUCHANAN Dental Surgeon Office—Leishman Block, Mill St. Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m. X-RAY TELEPHONE 148</p> <p>DR. GEORGE A. SIRRS Dental Surgeon Mill St., corner Frederick, Acton Office Hours: 9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. TELEPHONE 19</p>	<p>THE VICTOR B. RUMLEY FUNERAL HOME Funeral Home, Heated Ambulance Phone 30 night or day Serving the community for 45 years</p> <p>EYE CARE By Appointment</p> <p>WM. C. MILLIGAN, R.O. Optometrist 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Mill St. Residence of A. T. BROWN Please telephone 385J</p> <p>VETERINARY</p> <p>B. D. YOUNG, B.V.Sc. C. L. YOUNG, D.V.M. Veterinary Surgeons Office: Brookville, Ontario Phone—Milton 146R</p> <p>F. G. OAKES, V.S., B.V.Sc. Veterinary Surgeon Office and Residence—Knox Ave. Acton—Phone 130</p>
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<p>C. F. LEATHERLAND Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public Office 22 — Phone — Res. 151 ACTON</p>	<p>GRAY COACH LINES</p> <p>Daylight Saving Time COACHES LEAVE ACTON</p> <p>Eastbound 6.38 a.m.; 8.56 a.m.; 11.23 a.m.; 2.08 p.m.; 5.03 p.m.; 8.33 p.m.; 8.39 p.m.; 10.58 p.m.</p> <p>Westbound 10.17 a.m.; 12.52 p.m.; 2.57 p.m.; 5.27 p.m.; 7.27 p.m.; 9.12 p.m.; 11.23 p.m.; 1.12 a.m. (Sun. to Kitchener only)</p> <p>—Daily except Sunday and holidays— Sat.—Saturday, Sunday and holidays.</p>
WILLOUGHBY FARM AGENCY	CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS
<p>Largest and Oldest Agency in Canada Head Office, 366 Bay St., Toronto Phone EMpire 3-0604 Georgetown Representative Tom Hewson Phone Georgetown 332W</p>	<p>Standard Time</p> <p>Eastbound Daily 5.55 a.m.; Daily except Sundays 9.54 a.m.; 7.10 p.m. Sunday only, 7.16 p.m.; Daily except Sunday Flyer at Georgetown 9.02 a.m.; Daily Flyer at Georgetown, 10.11 p.m.</p> <p>Westbound Daily except Sunday and Monday, 1.58 a.m.; Sunday and Monday only, 12.08 a.m.; daily except Sunday, 8.48 a.m.; 6.50 p.m.; 7.44 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. 5.48 p.m.; (flagstop); Saturday only 1.36 p.m.; Sunday only 8.43 a.m. (flagstop); Sunday only, Flyer at Guelph, 7.06 p.m.</p>

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