

EDITORIAL

Canada Turns 84

"Canada, Dominion of, the largest and most important overseas member of the British Empire, stretching across the North American continent from ocean to ocean north of the United States, excepting in the northwest corner where is situated the United States territory of Alaska. To the north are the icy waters of the Arctic ocean. Its greatest width from east to west is 3,700 miles; its length from north to south about 1,600 miles."

That's where one encyclopedia puts us. And on Sunday, July 1, this vast area celebrates its birthday—its 84th.

Canada is still just a teen-ager in this old universe, though. Since Confederation in 1867, the country has grown tremendously. It's still growing without suffering too acute an awkward stage. Canadians of all ages have an environment derived attitude of hope, what is sadly lacking in European and Asian countries which have suffered hardships for centuries. The youngness of our country itself radiates optimism.

It was just 84 years ago that the British North America Act was passed by the British Parliament, to come in effect July 1, 1867. By this act Canada was divided into the two provinces of Ontario and Quebec, which with New Brunswick and Nova Scotia were to form the new Dominion. The first general election was held in August, and a ministry formed under John A. Macdonald.

To the younger people, this bit of history could almost have taken place two centuries ago, yet there are many living who can remember that day.

We're a healthy and happy population—and level-headed, too. Happy Birthday to us—all of us who are a part of this wonderful country—Canada.

More Work, Councillors

More than once we have expressed our dislike of government controls that restrict wages, prices and other items, because of their spoon-feeding quality and public babying.

The Special Committee of the Legislature has come up with a method of control that seems in our opinion, to be the worst yet. Municipal rent control in rural areas and small towns will be recommended by the legislature's committee on rents. L. P. Cecile, chairman of the committee, said the government has the power to turn rent control over to municipalities by regulation without an act of legislature.

Background on rent controls shows that this seems to be another move commonly termed as government buck-passing and municipalities, at the bottom of the list, are foolish if they tackle a problem that the federal and provincial governments figure is too hot for them to handle.

A flat percentage for the whole province would not be as fair as a variable percentage in each municipality, officials explained. Perhaps municipalities, if they get an opportunity, should consider the disadvantages in their handling of rent control.

Small towns do not have full-time councillors and reeves or mayors to devote hours of time in hearing the appeals and rebuttals that would arise if they are to control rents. If the municipality did not accept the regulation of rent control for that town would there be any or would the government have a stipulation requiring municipalities to exercise rent control?

The Frost government should consider wisely and well the addition of this load to the thus far willing backs of part-time mayors, reeves, and councillors playing their part as citizens.

Safety And More Safety

This week several hundred mothers and fathers are likely to get a head full of facts and suggestions on how to avoid accidents involving children during the summer months.

With schools throughout Ontario closing just before Dominion Day week-end, special safety-home safety leaflets are being given to children before they leave school. These red and black folders are part of the stepped-up summer safety campaign of the Department of Highways.

Police and safety workers cannot make the traffic safe. They need the help of everybody—pedestrians and drivers alike. Out of 524 child accident victims last summer 125 were cyclists, 188 were on foot but the largest group, 211, were children hurt or killed while riding as passengers in motor vehicles.

Despite all that law enforcement and safety engineering do to prevent accidents traffic safety still depends on individuals. Everyone who uses streets and highways can help by walking and driving with extra caution, and by encouraging others to be more safety minded.

Schools closed this week for the long summer vacation and these are the good old school days we all used to long for.

It's Our Birthday

Newspapers are usually considered inanimate things, but still each year a newspaper celebrates its birthday with an editorial comment. Birthdays are usually happy occasions and this issue is the last number in the publication of the Acton Free Press during its 76th year.

The Free Press has been serving Acton and its district for 76 years. It has woven itself with the history of a community, the founding of which none now living will remember. It has helped to build that history and has presented an invaluable record of the doings of Acton citizens for 76 years.

No historian has spent so long compiling a book, no record is more accurate than the community newspaper. Each reader is contributing towards the history of Acton. You may be mentioned for visiting out of town and your name is recorded in an aging historical chronicle.

Our present editorship of nearly a quarter century has covered almost one-third of the existence of the Free Press and we have endeavored to retain and add to the tradition started at the founding of the paper.

News and news items vary radically with the times. In trying to keep abreast of these changes we introduced recently a complete new format with changes in type faces and styles.

In launching our next edition, the first of volume 77, we hope to continue to present the Acton story each week in news fashion for the citizens of the community who live now and for those who follow.

License Plate Savings

It always seems nice to hear of governments saving money and recently the Ontario government announced the use of this year's motor vehicle license plates in 1952.

Use of the 1951 plates will be validated by a sticker which will be placed on the lower right hand corner of the windshield. Announcing the move to depart from stamping out new license plates each year, Highway Minister Doucet said it is in line with the federal defense plan.

Some 750 tons of steel will be diverted into more essential channels. "It may be possible that the 750 tons of steel saved could be obtained for more vital purposes such as bridges or other necessary departmental purposes", said Mr. Doucet.

Perhaps we might take a lesson from the English system of auto markers. They are of the permanent type that stay with the car through all its sales. The car comes from the factory with the marker.

This would mean not only a saving in steel but a vast saving in record keeping since the new set of records would not have to be set up each year to keep track of the newly issued numbers.

The windshield marker to be issued in 1952 will be printed on a yellow background and is approximately three inches by five. There is another saving angle in the use of this year's license plates. Think of the time it takes to unfasten the rusty bolts, each year.

Editorial Notes

Wonder, what our visitors will tell us about when our roads are all paved and tidy again.

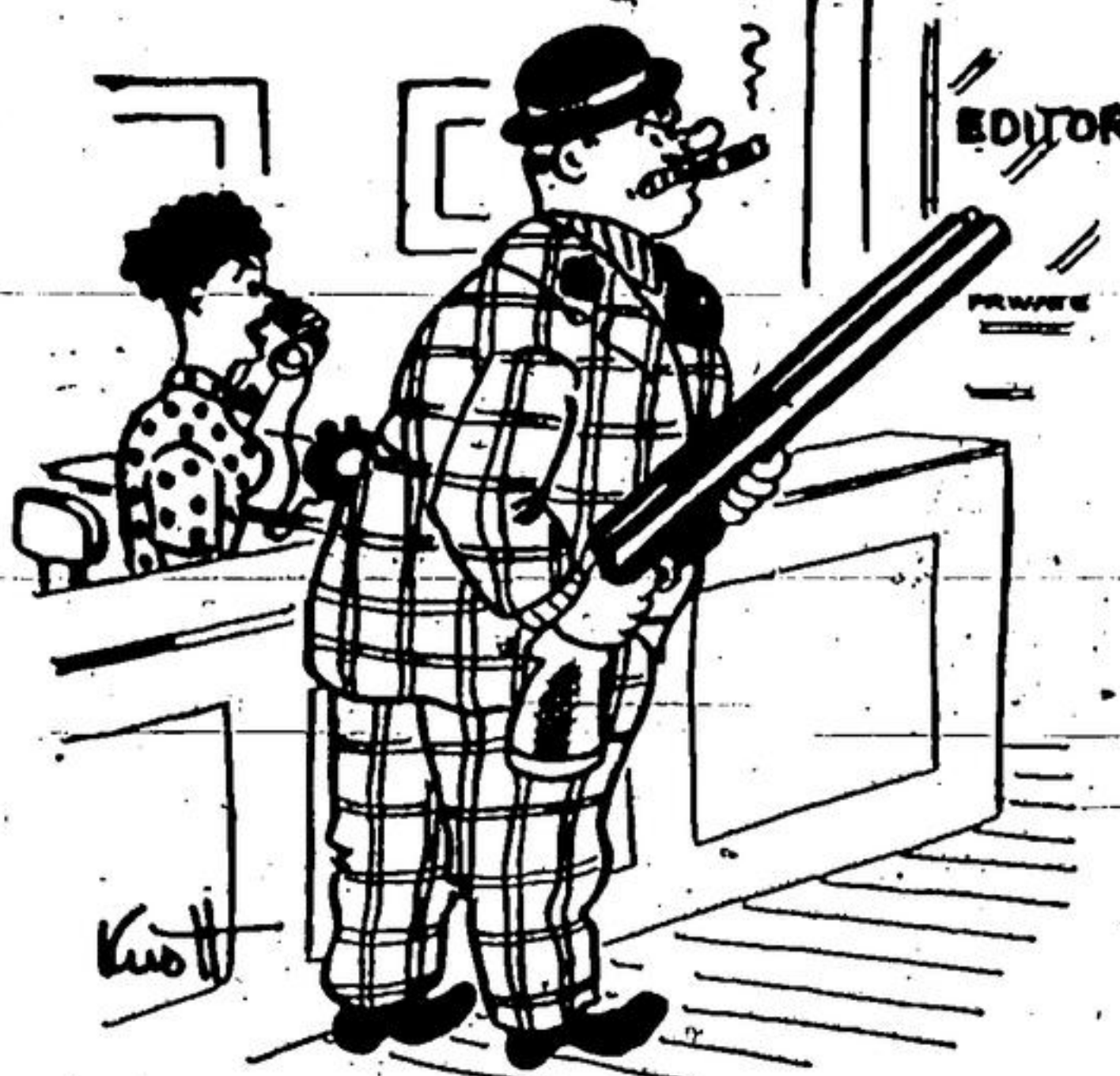
Thomas Richard Henry, Telegram columnist, found our "Road to Korea" worthy of comment in a recent issue of that paper.

Two youngsters have built a clubhouse in their yard. On the wall, in childish lettering, is a list of club rules. No. 1 reads: "Nobody act big, nobody act small, everybody act medium."

June, the month of brides, roses, strawberries and the most delightful weather, is nearing an end. But here in Ontario it's been good to have lived in such plenty on all sides that this month portrays.

Over production is starting to show up in some lines and it appears that a readjustment period in many industries is taking place. There would seem no cause for alarm in these changes. Perhaps more attention and effort can be concentrated on other lines that have been forced into the background.

Commenting on the passing of the Alameda Dispatch of Saskatchewan the Estevan Mercury sadly reports. At one time there were thirteen newspaper offices between North Portal and Moose Jaw. Now there are three. As business began to centralize, mainly because of the automobile, country towns began to suffer and decline. With that decline the printing office was one of the first institutions to disappear. What is still a store for remaining country newspapers is readily visible. Costs are climbing unduly.



"MR. MILLER - A GENTLEMAN IS HERE TO SEE YOU ABOUT THAT FEARLESS EDITORIAL YOU WROTE ON LOCAL POLITICS."

THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

BACK IN 1901

Taken from the Issue of the Free Press of Thursday, June 27th, 1901

On June 19th, 1851, Edward Nicklin and Mary Catharine Swackhamer, the daughter of the late John Swackhamer, one of the pioneers of this vicinity, were united in holy wedlock at the home of the bride's father, Churchill. Rev. Hiram Denny, a pioneer and much beloved and successful minister, tied the nuptial knot. This happy event of half a century ago was commemorated in a very special family function held at the residence of ex-reeve A. E. Nicklin, Bower Ave.

A new "lover's walk", two planks wide, has been built on Guelph St. from Church to Agnes.

The foundations are being excavated and the lumber being laid down for Mr. Glebe's new home, corner Mill St. and Park Ave.

In a fast game of ball on Saturday in Milton the Acton juniors were defeated by a score of nine to seven. The Acton team was as follows: A. Pearson p. N. Ryder c.; R. McDonald, 1b.; J. Ramsey 2b.; F. Wilds 3b.; R. Holmes ss.; G. Hynds lf.; F. Brown cf.; W. Pearson rf. Umpire Neil McNabb.

About one month ago Squire Kelly on his visit to Acton made his son, Dr. Kelly a fine donation of \$10,000. Dr. Kelly has had for some years a desire to take up special work on the eye and ear and thus being put on "Easy Street" has decided to take a year in the hospitals of the United States, England and Germany. Last Thursday he disposed of his fine residence, to Dr. Thomas Gray.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Secord and Mr. and Mrs. T. E. M. Secord and Miss Rachel went to Lundy's Lane on Saturday to participate in the unveiling of a monument erected there as a tribute to the memory of Canada's heroine, Laura Secord. Many others among the friends and descendants of the woman whose memory all honour were present.

A strawberry vendor from Palermo had the misfortune to have his horse run away on Tuesday morning and upset the load. There were cheap strawberries afterward.

Citizens! The firemen who risk life and limb to protect your houses have provided an enjoyable party for your pleasure tomorrow evening.

16-50 for the value of its chemical elements, the human body would be worth about 98 cents.

Day's Champions Bring Back Trophy

The Young People's Society of the Presbyterian Church went to Galt on Saturday afternoon to compete with the rest of the societies in the Guelph Pro-Victory infield and track events. They came out with a big lead over the others. Acton also entered a baseball team and after a hard fight won this event, too making the Acton Y.P.S. champions of the day.

A picnic lunch was enjoyed after which Douglas David, on president of the Acton society was presented with the Presbyterian track and field trophy. The society replied with their society song.

A lovely evening of roller skating brought to a close a very enjoyable day.

BACK IN 1931

Taken from the Issue of the Free Press of Thursday, June 25th, 1931

The summer holidays are here again in real earnest.

Daylight Saving Time commences in Acton on Friday night.

The Ladies' Aid of the United Church held an enjoyable picnic at Blue Springs Park yesterday.

There are 65 writing entrance examinations at Acton School. Thirty of these are Acton pupils. Churchill Community held an old-time garden party last evening. The ladies served a bounteous and appetizing meal and later a varied program of local talent was presented.

The severe electrical and wind storms of last Friday and Saturday did considerable damage in the immediate vicinity of Acton. On the farm of Messrs. Flynn Bros. trees were uprooted and an implement shed levelled to the ground and the roof carried twenty feet away. Two sheep were killed by lightning on the farm of George Bilton.

Mr. W. Lashbrook suffered injuries when his car turned over in the ditch while passing a car on the town line.

BORN
BROWN—At Grace Hospital, Toronto, on Friday, June 19, 1931, to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Brown, a son.

CAMPBELLVILLE St. David's Ladies Spend Day Quilting

The W.M.S. of St. David's Church held its annual quilting in the Sunday-School room on Thursday beginning at 9 o'clock. Two quilts were quilted for the W.M.S., two for the Mission Band, one plain and one fancy and one crib quilt for the Girls' group.

A short business meeting was held at the noon hour when the president, Mrs. Elliot, called on Mrs. Parker to read a short scripture passage. Mrs. Elliot led in prayer after which some items of business were discussed and again referred to at the tea hour.

Fourteen ladies were present at the noon meal, and twenty-four for tea. Everyone appeared to enjoy the bountiful meals and was ready for home about 5:30.

The Blair Young Women's Auxiliary held its June meeting at the home of Mrs. James Robertson on Wednesday evening. Mrs. Robertson opened the meeting by reading a poem and prayer. Mrs. James Wallace chose as a scripture reading the seventy-second psalm.

After the usual business was taken care of plans were made for the picnic to be held at Gertrude Campbell's "Light for the Mountains", an article from the Glad Tidings, written by Mrs. James Dickson Farvan was read by Mrs. Wm. Mahon. Mrs. Lawrence Sharpe gave a splendid report of the address given by Rev. Mr. Hanson, returned missionary from China, at the Presbyterian Rally. Strength was the word used in answering the roll call. The meeting was closed with prayer by Mrs. Menzies. The hostess, assisted by Mrs. R. Elliot, served a delicious lunch which was enjoyed by the fourteen ladies present.

Commercially speaking the Douglas fir is more valuable than any other tree.

AT THE Churches

United Church of Canada
Acton, Ontario
A FRIENDLY CHURCH
Parsonage—29 Bower Avenue
Phone 60
Rev. E. A. Curry, B.A., B.D., Minister.
Miss O. M. Langford, A.T.C.M., Organist and Choir Leader

SUNDAY, JULY 1st, 1951
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship.

Baptist Church ACTON

SUNDAY, JULY 1st, 1951
10:30 a.m.—Sunday School.
11:30 a.m.—Morning Service.
7:30 p.m.—Evening Service.
Communion will follow the morning service.
Wednesday, 8:30 p.m.—Prayer Meeting.
Friday, 8:30 p.m.—B.Y.P.U.
Sunday School picnic Saturday, July 21 at Erin.

The average weight of the human brain in 48 ounces.

Presbyterian Church in Canada
KNOX CHURCH, ACTON
REV. ROBERT H. ARMSTRONG, M.A., B.D., Minister

SUNDAY, JULY 1st, 1951
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School and Bible Class.
11:00 a.m.—Divine Worship Junior Choir.
7:00 p.m.—Divine Worship.
July 2-6—Daily Vacation Bible School 9:00-11:30 each day for boys and girls 3 to 14 years.
Evening Services will be held in Knox Church July 1, 8, 15 and we are glad to welcome the members of the other churches.

ALL ARE WELCOME

St. Alban's Church (Anglican)

Rector—Rev. W. G. Laxton, B.A.

SUMMER SERVICES JULY AND AUGUST

Each Sunday the service will be held at 11.15 a.m. Bring the children to these services.
A Welcome Awaits You

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLER'S GUIDE

MEDICAL

DR. W. G. C. KENNEY
Physician and Surgeon
(Successor to Dr. J. A. McIven)
Office in Symon Block, Mill St., Acton.
Office Phone 78
Residence Church St. Phone 158

DR. D. A. GARRETT
Physician and Surgeon
Holidays during July
Corner of Willow and River St.
Entrance River Street
Acton, Ontario
Phone 238

DENTAL

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

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

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Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public
Office 22 — Phone — Res. 151
ACTON

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Successors to
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44 Victoria St., Toronto
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Serving the community for 45 years

EYE CARE
By Appointment

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Optometrist
1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
at Mill St. Residence of
A. T. BROWN
Please telephone 385J

VETERINARY

B. D. YOUNG, B.V.Sc.
C. L. YOUNG, D.V.M.
Veterinary Surgeons
Office: Brookville, Ontario
Phone—Milton 1464

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

TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

GRAY COACH LINES

Daylight Saving Time
COACHES LEAVE ACTON Eastbound
6:38 a.m.; 8:58 a.m.; 11:23 a.m.; 2:08 p.m.; 5:03 p.m.; 6:33 p.m.; 8:39 p.m.; 10:58 p.m.
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.; 11:32 p.m.; 1:12 a.m. (Sun. to Kitchener only)
—Daily except Sunday and holidays.
—Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

Standard Time

Eastbound
Daily 5:55 a.m.; Daily except Sundays 9:54 a.m.; 7:10 p.m. Sunday only 8:16 p.m.; Daily except Sunday Flyer at Georgetown 9:02 a.m.; Daily Flyer at Georgetown, 10:11 p.m.
Westbound
Daily except Sunday and Monday 1:56 a.m.; Sunday and Monday only 12:08 a.m.; Daily except Sunday 3:41 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, 7:00 p.m.

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