

EDITORIAL

Back to School

It happens every year about this time when our young Canadians of all ages from five years until at least sixteen years start or continue their studies in our schools across this great country. Some of these classes are in little rural school houses and some of them in fine new buildings. Some are in country, towns or in the big schools in the city. But no matter in what remote part of this great country of Canada or what crowded city section these are days for all between five and at least sixteen years to go "back to school".

We don't suppose children look on it now as a great privilege and to hear them talk it would appear a hardship but after all it is indeed a great privilege that all our children in this country have the opportunity for education. Location is no barrier and often we find that those who have the greatest handicaps in attending school make the most of their opportunities. Biographies of many great men and women show that this is true of all generations down through the years.

Back to school days might well be termed Opportunity Days. True, it requires effort and industry to take advantage of educational facilities. Once the lessons are learned and the knowledge absorbed, however, they are assets which last a lifetime and are found imperative to meeting conditions encountered every day.

We don't expect school children to read this article but parents might well impress upon their children the opportunities that our schools offer and be very helpful instilling in the young minds the desire for more education and the advantage of attending school regularly to get the most out of schools.

Well Decorated Window

"Have you been to the exhibition yet". That's a common question these days as the gigantic Canadian National Exhibition attracts the curious and the interested to see the latest in agriculture, industry and the arts.

Millions of visitors will click through the turnstiles for a look at "The Show Window of Canada". American tourists think it is wonderful and few have seen its parallel south of the border.

Canada is a comparatively young country. Her growth is rapid but her development is keeping pace. The Canadian National Exhibition is one of the important contributions to that development just as the smaller agricultural fairs common in the most communities are an important part of the Canadian way of life.

Jimmy Durante is on the largest stage of its kind in the world to entertain some 26,000 nightly, while others rush to the huge and versatile midway for the thrills and "wonders of the world".

During its two week run the C.N.E. officials expect some 3,000,000 visitors to flock over the 350 acres of park and though some \$450,000,000 worth of buildings that house this gigantic spectacle suitably named the "Show Window of the Nation".

There is the unusual as always. Past all the cattle, swine, sheep and goats one visitor found competitors for the North American fencing championship. Men's sabres and women's foils were being contested with five judges watching each duel.

The Miles That Separate

We're still intrigued about the odd meetings of conventions and perhaps we may carry over a little from last week. For instance while editor Casey Woods Jr. has been conducting the Oakville-Trafalgar Journal for nearly four years and only a few miles separate us every day, it took a convention in Winnipeg to have us meet personally. Four of Halton's newspapers were represented at the convention this year.

We were pleased to hear the announcement that the Oakville-Trafalgar Journal won the community service award. We examined Mr. Woods' entry in the contest and it gave judges and everyone conclusive evidence of the community service done the past year by this Halton County Journal.

Incidentally, we don't recall seeing the two boys from the train that the Oakville-Trafalgar Journal credits us with. Must have been some grey-haired editor Mr. Woods met on the way who told him that story.

There were folks from Saskatchewan who are friends of ours and others from Manitoba who are friends of ours. It was some- where where ever one went there was some- one who knew of your town or your friends. Of course there were always those who knew the streets. It's also remarkable how bad it is to go faster than good ones and how good it is to look forward to hearing about things we have instead of drawing conclusions of deplorable conditions.

Children - Smiles

Coming home on the train from Toronto recently there were two new families from Holland going to new homes in Canada in the Alliston district. There were eighteen in the two families—young parents and bright smiling boys and girls. Most everyone in the coach became interested in them as they talked in their own language and the children watched from the train window.

It was early morning. Their luggage filled the racks and it was breakfast time. Mother cut slices of bread, put on butter and a little bit of sardines. One can of sardines among ten reminded us of a certain parable. Second course was another slice of bread and a section of an orange. After breakfast the washrooms were busy spots as children emerged with shining faces and neatly combed hair.

It's difficult to engage passengers in conversation when neither knows the language of the other but there is usually a way to get acquainted. This time it was a couple of packages of gum given to the father of the family of ten. He examined it and said one word, "Children". We nodded and smiled in return of his smile. Fortunately, there was sufficient for each child to get one stick and father studiously looked at his dictionary and the package, but we're afraid was unable to find "Juicy-Fruit" in a condensed dictionary. Might be a suggestion here for the packaging of products to put on the package what it contains as well as the trade name.

But it made friends who smiled back at us and when they left the train at Georgetown to continue their journey the children came and shook hands and the parents smiled and pointed and said, "Holland" and "Rotterdam". When our train pulled out the children were waving frantically with both hands and smiling.

Canada is a great place for children and those who can smile. We'd like to meet those families again ten years hence. We'll bet they will be having more than bread and sardines for breakfast and we hope the smiles never come off.

A Welcome Sign

Hopes are now bright for smooth pavements and attractive streets as road improvements get under way following the sewerage upheaval. With the coming of new and smooth pavement comes the introduction of a higher speed by cars resulting in less notice of the town.

Speed limits were always adhered to with rough and rugged streets that jolt your teeth but smooth pavements will make a difference. This town is a pleasant one and one we think, visitors should notice and know; therefore it would be wise to erect a sign at the entrance telling this town's story.

A combination of service clubs and industry might make possible an attractive welcome sign that would greet visitors travelling through the community.

Bad roads made the town notorious and now attractive streets, a clear business section and improved sidewalks should make the town famous. But people don't always notice the small highway sign and the moral of the story is lost.

One important consideration in erecting a sign is that if it grows shabby the story is reversed. Dull paint shows a dull interest and conveys an unfavourable impression to the worn traveller.

Many of the smaller communities have pointed the way in this matter and organizations have erected signs bearing the town's name and some interesting information about it. The small community of Drumquin has a very attractive sign that tells the name, approximate date of founding, and the important detail that it was erected by the Women's Institute.

Larger communities, too, have signs, like that of Brampton erected by service clubs for the information of the tourist or traveller. Merchants should be included in any plan since it is they who would perhaps benefit most directly from a traveller's welcome.

Editorial Notes

We have a tax on everything now, except hitch-hikers. Some day I suppose there will be a tax on hitch-hikers... probably call it a thumb tax.

The cloudy days have the autumn tang that reminds us of the fall fairs just around the corner when farmers display their produce and children watch the erection of the midway.

School bells will toll the end of the summer vacation Tuesday when the children go back to desks in another room and some of the younger ones visit the educational institutions for the first time.



"SO THIS IS WHY I WAS ASKED TO COME ALONG."

THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

BACK IN 1931

From the Issue of the Free Press of Thursday, August 27th, 1931

A merry crowd of young people from Toronto enjoyed a corn roast at Mr. Jas. Ramshaw's farm on Saturday night.

The Girl Guides went to camp at a beautiful camp just off the highway above Rockwood on Saturday last.

On Tuesday evening the Acton Tuxis boys journeyed to Milton and were defeated there by the score of 8-6 in a five inning game with the Milton Tuxis.

Georgetown Citizens' Band gave a splendid concert from the stand in Acton Park on Sunday evening.

A very pretty wedding took place at St. Chad's Anglican Church, Toronto, when Mabel Irene, only daughter of Mrs. W. F. Lawn, became the bride of Mr. Leslie Bernard Baldwin, of Toronto.

In case some fishermen do not believe that Fairy Lake has some very fine bass in it Johnnie Dunn landed a small mouthed bass last Friday that measured 18 1/2 inches and tipped the scales at 3 1/2 lbs.

Both Continuation and Public Schools are ready for the opening on September 1st. In fact the schools are open for inspection of parents on Friday, August 21 from three until five o'clock.

July 1st Not Date Canada Created

Whenever a statutory holiday is coming due, most industries of any size post notice of the holiday on the plant bulletin boards. Because his company has a fair percentage of recently arrived foreign-born workers on the payroll, the manager of a big Toronto company makes a practice of explaining the holiday's significance and its historical background about two weeks before the date.

"Most of them know such and such a date is a holiday, but why is another question," he said. In explaining his bulletin board system, "It will help them learn a bit about Canadian history if nothing else."

For example, his bulletin board notice for Dominion Day carried this short history of the holiday:

"Dominion Day is the anniversary of the birth of Canada. As surprising as it may seem, July 1st is not the day the Dominion of Canada was created. It was on March 29th, 1867, that the British North America Act became law and the Dominion of Canada created. However, on May 22nd, 1867, a proclamation was issued naming July 1st as the birthday of the Dominion. At first, Canada comprised only four provinces—Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Manitoba became the fifth province in 1869. In July, 1871, British Columbia entered the Dominion followed by Prince Edward Island in July, 1873. Until 1905 the Dominion consisted of only seven provinces, at which time Alberta and Saskatchewan joined. On April 1st, 1950, Newfoundland became Canada's tenth province—making Canada almost as large as all Europe."

The idea is quite simple, but its value is obvious when it is realized that most people don't know all the facts contained in the paragraph quoted above.

BACK IN 1951

From the Issue of the Free Press of Thursday, August 29th, 1951

At the regular bi-weekly session of the municipal council, councillor Jeans, chairman of the parks committee, asked if council had any objections to the removal of the band stand from the town hall square to the park. The permission sought was granted. It was suggested to the worthy chairman that when the band stand was removed to the park it should be repainted. Erin will hold its civic holiday tomorrow.

The improvements at the Acton public school are about complete.

John Myers, an itinerant hedge trimmer, was sentenced last Friday by Magistrate Williams to thirty days in goal for being disorderly on the streets and carrying dangerous weapons in the form of trimming shears.

Rev. H. A. MacPherson said of the weather on Tuesday night, "It is a very peach of a night". It was a most auspicious evening for St. Alban's peach festival, held at Mr. Boardman's residence, and a very gratifying success resulted. The lawn was dotted with tents, booths and tables and with Chinese lanterns and other decorations was quite fairy-like.

Mr. W. Johnston, butcher, has disposed of his business to Mr. Neil Patterson of Milton, who takes possession about the middle of September. Mr. Patterson has leased for a term of years the brick store of Mrs. B. W. Nicklin and will transfer the meat business to that stand.

The links of Acton Golf Club are now in prime condition and there is good sport in store for the members.

Easy Stage Over, Royal Society Told

Canada needs a development plan on a national scale, Dr. J. J. O'Neill told the Royal Society of Canada in his presidential address. In reviewing our growth for the first half of the century Dr. O'Neill maintained that we had developed much faster politically than materially; had depended too much on pot-luck in the utilization of our natural resources. The result, he claimed, was an under-populated country and one with an excessive overhead and too vulnerable to economic storms.

The head of the Royal Society has given his fellow Canadians something to think about, declares The Financial Post. We have made big strides in opening this vast country in the last 50 years. But the easy stage, the skimming off the top cream so to speak, is over. We no longer possess great stretches of virgin, fertile and treeless land merely waiting for the plow. It is no longer possible to bring in settlers by the million and settle them in permanent occupations overnight. Mineral, oil, forest and other resources are not going to be found and developed either cheaply or quickly. Brains, not luck, will be needed if this country is to grow as it should grow in the second half of the twentieth century.

WORST BLOW

The stroke of a whale's tail, which can smash even a large boat, is the fiercest blow that can be struck by an animal.

AT THE Churches

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1951
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship.

Baptist Church
ACTON

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1951
Special Re-opening and Dedication
Sunday
10:30 a.m.—Sunday School
11:30 a.m.—Morning Service, followed by Communion.
7:30 p.m.—Evening Service.
Wednesday, 8:30—Prayer Meeting.
Friday, 8:30—B.Y.P.U.

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1951
11:00 a.m.—Divine Worship
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School
ALL ARE WELCOME

St. Alban's Church
(Anglican)
Rector—Rev. W. G. Linton, M.A.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1951
Trinity XV
11:00 a.m.—Holy Communion.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service in United Church.
The Sunday School will re-open Sunday, September 9 at 10 a.m. for all classes.
A Welcome Awaits You

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TRAVELLERS' GUIDE
GRAY COACH LINES
Daylight Saving Time
COACHES LEAVE ACTON
Eastbound
6:30 a.m.; 8:58 a.m.; 11:23 a.m.;
2:08 p.m.; 5:03 p.m.; 6:33 p.m.; 8:29 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.; 11:23 p.m.; 1:12 a.m. (Sun. to Kitchener only).
a—Daily except Sunday and holidays.
b—Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS
Standard Time
Eastbound
Daily 5:55 a.m.; Daily except Sundays 8:54 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, 8:48 a.m.; 6:50 p.m.; 7:44 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. 5:48 p.m. (flagstop); Saturday only 1:38 p.m.; Sunday only 8:43 a.m. (flagstop); Sunday only Flyer at Guelph, 7:58 p.m.

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