

# EDITORIAL

## New Plans

Halton County assessment has been settled for this year and it is to be hoped that soon will emerge a plan that will justify the name of "equalized." It is some years now since a county assessor with staff was installed in office to carry out a plan of assessing that had approval of the provincial department. Experts from Queen's Park assisted in giving direction to the plan and the task of completely revising assessment procedure was undertaken. We believe some books were supplied to make the plan uniform.

Some of us recall when a municipal officer was a man who did all assessing, police work and practically all the work of the town. It took a man of exceptional ability and under present arrangements we doubt if such a man could be found to do all these jobs. It was to improve our assessing and equalizing of municipal tax allotment that the present system was inaugurated. It was also felt that costly court proceedings of arriving at an equalized figure would be avoided.

The recent court ruling on equalization has shown that the plan is far from successful. Working on evidence produced, the court has decided that four of the municipalities of the county were unequally assessed. It may be that some years later and after several more interpretations of proper assessment with fairness to all, a plan may be evolved that will be nearer perfection. The fact remains that in Halton the new assessment plan did not eliminate court proceedings to get an equalized basis. The same procedure was necessary that was used over 30 years ago.

Those who pay taxes may well ask how long it will take to get the new system working and what are the planners at Queen's Park doing to make their system operative. Being a pioneer in such new schemes of improvement has its handicaps. It might be interesting to know what the plan has cost in Halton to date and at what time to make a study of its value.

In a speech on honesty, Mark Twain said that as a boy, he saw a cart of melons which sorely tempted him. "I sneaked up to the cart and stole a melon. I went into the alley to devour it, but I no sooner set my teeth into it than I paused, a strange feeling came over me. I came to a quick conclusion. Firmly I walked up to that cart, replaced that melon—and took a ripe one."

## Sidewalks for Rent

Every winter there seems to be a surplus of town sidewalks. In spring and summer, sidewalks are quite a convenience for pedestrians. But come the first fall of snow and a lot of their usefulness disappears under the snow. An unshovelled sidewalk isn't as easy to walk upon as a well plowed roadway and the pedestrian takes to the roadway and increases the danger of accidents.

We don't know the solution. The chap over 50 is continuously being reminded that it is dangerous to his heart to shovel snow. The chaps under 50 have grown up in the motor age and are more and more inclined to give up walking and shovelling.

We have heard folks argue and point to examples of towns and cities where the clearing of sidewalks is another service performed by the municipality. Where such is the case the cost is, of course, another item that makes municipal taxes and rents higher. Somebody has to be paid for every service performed.

There was a time when the specialist's field was quite a narrow one. We may yet see the day when the chore of clearing sidewalks, which any boy can do, will become a specialized job and, of course, every school boy knows a specialist is a highly paid individual.

It's rather interesting to note that seldom are applications made to councils for new sidewalks during the winter months. For rent signs are not common these days but for the next month or two such signs might well adorn certain sidewalks in town. We speak for that fast diminishing part of our population who are still pedestrians and have rights as well as those who travel almost exclusively by motor car.

If you don't get everything you want, think of the things you don't get that you don't want.

## New Fields

Saturday afternoon we spent some time at C.B.L. studios with Don Fairbairn, Reid Forsee and the staff who help prepare the neighborhood news broadcast for Sunday mornings. Don is going away next week and the editor and son Jim have agreed to fill in on January 25th in his absence.

It has been some years since we visited a radio station and in those years the buildings and equipment have changed. Used to be everything went on the air from the studio and performers had to be before the microphone at the time of broadcasting. We had the privilege on Saturday of viewing the equipment now in use. News gathering machines, tape and disc recording equipment and all the other gadgets were in view. In other words, we made a back shop tour of radio on Saturday and found it most interesting.

Of course, the real object of our visit was to get acquainted with those who help prepare items from the 210 weekly newspapers each week and scan every column to see that not one birthday of those over 90 is overlooked. We're relieved to find it's only Don Fairbairn who is being absent on January 25 and the staff of experienced helpers will remain behind to guide us and arrange the broadcast. We assure you that after the week end of January 25 it will be some years before our next visit. As we have said before, we do not change our positions at our years and are glad the broadcast is to be shared jointly by the editor and one of his sons.

New tax forms have been issued. They vary only a little from last year in form only. In essence they are the same—you pay. One comment says they will save you a lot of trouble and irritation. Now isn't that nice.

## The Weather

With one of the worst ice storms in several years in the district there isn't any subject much more important this week than the weather. Some of us can remember the winter days when the weather became beastly in the winter months we just stayed indoors until it moderated. A day or so wasn't so important and it gave some time to catch up with reading and indoor activity. Of course, the wood box had to be kept filled and some outdoor excursions were necessary but visiting out of town was not considered.

It's different today since we have become mechanized. An ice storm can be crippling to everyone. Travel by motor car is treacherous. Hydro service and telephone communications have a record of continuous service which when interrupted seem indispensable. Every factory and home has equipment that makes electric power essential. This goes for the farm today as well as the urban home. When you pick up the telephone and communication is not possible until lines are repaired, you seem shut in.

Yes, the weather is a very important factor in our conduct of business and home life. Man has done many things for greater living comfort but when the weather gets beastly he is still pretty well licked until it moderates.

Smiths Falls has decided to retain rent control by a Council vote of 8 to 1. The Council there also passed a resolution protesting against the existing rental administration of the system. Seems to be bad but desirous of being retained.

## We Are All Canadians

Politics in Canada should not be placed on a regional, sectional or racial basis. There are no "minorities" in Canada. We are all Canadians, regardless of racial origin, language, religion or politics. And that is the way we should like to see it continue.

Setting groups of people apart for special representation in government would be contrary to Canada's hopes for a national oneness.

It may be natural that by living in colonies certain people should feel themselves a minority group. Indeed they are, if they persist in living off by themselves. But when new people come to Canada we think they should be ready to accept their responsibilities to the great majority and to become a part of Canadianism.—Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

### Back in 1903

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, January 15, 1953

In a review of the financial and business year just ended Bradstreet says that Canada last week completed, from a business point of view, the most successful year in its history.

Mr. Percy Secord of Buffalo, N.Y. has kindly forwarded to the Board of Education a facsimile copy of the Magna Charta. The Board has instructed the secretary to acknowledge Mr. Secord's timely and much appreciated gift. This magnificent historical document will be suitably framed and will occupy a place of honor on the wall of the school where 30 years ago Mr. Secord spent many studious days of his boyhood.

The annual entertainment of the Baptist Sunday School was held last Friday evening when a good company of parents and friends came to hear the scholars give their songs and recitations. A feature which was pleasing to all was the phonograph managed by Mr. Jos Harley of Georgetown. The superintendent, Mr. A. A. Warden, presided.

The negotiations for the disposal of the Dominion Hotel have been completed and Mr. Robert Agnew has sold out the hotel property and furnishings to Messrs. Clancy and Hopkins of Carleton Place. Mr. Agnew has had the reputation of keeping one of the most orderly houses in the province, and that his efforts have been appreciated is the fact that he is now able to retire with a well-earned competence. Mr. Agnew enjoyed the company of "Mother" Smith, a series of commercial travellers who called at Acton.

On Friday evening last Ivanhoe Camp, Sons of Scotland, Acton, held their meeting for the installation of officers. After this had been done a surprise was in store, when the camp was invited to become the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Agnew at the Dominion Hotel, Mr. D. Henderson, M.P. occupied the chair. Amongst the toasts not forgotten was the Haggis.

Sir Wilfred Laurier, when questioned at Montreal on Monday, laughed at and denied the story so assiduously published by the opposition papers, that he is to retire from the government.

Acton is helping out both Georgetown and Milton hockey teams this year. Frank Green is signed with Georgetown and Ed Ryder and Jim Smith with Milton.

### Excessive Speed Hurts the Purse

Excessive speed not only endangers life but it also hurts the pocket-book.

Driving costs go up every time the accelerator goes down. When speed is increased from 40 to 60 miles an hour, gasoline costs jump almost 30 per cent. Cost of oil consumed goes up almost four times when speed is increased from 40 to 60 miles an hour. At the same time, the cost of wear and tear on tires is two and a half times greater at the higher speed. The increased seriousness of accidents at higher speeds is indicated by the records for 1951. In Ontario cities the "fatal rate" (fatal accidents per 100 accidents of all types reported) was 0.7. On the King's Highways, the corresponding rate was 2.4 or more than three times as high.

The average worker in Ontario makes \$56.46 a week.

### Back in 1933

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, January 15, 1933

The snow shovels have not been much in demand this winter.

The 10th annual meeting of the Halton County Children's Aid Society was held at the Gordon Home with Mr. J. M. Denyes presiding. Quite a distinguished visitor visited Crewson's Corners in the person of Mr. Judson Crewson who left these parts 54 years ago.

Fire caused by an explosion of a lantern completely destroyed Wilfred MacDonald's barn with contents, at the Scotch Block. The loss is partly covered by insurance.

During the past year the Duke of Devonshire Chapter of the I.O.D.E. supplied 434 pints of milk to school children.

The Halton Presbytery of the United Church of Canada met in Milton on Tuesday for the purpose of considering the rural problem in its economic, social and religious aspects. Delegates were present from the various charges of the Presbytery. The speakers of the day were Hon. E. C. Drury, Mr. W. G. Good and Prof. Fernald, economist of Toronto University and minister of the Dutch Reform Church in South Africa.

From the Winnipeg Free Press we learn of the passing away of David Waldie at the home of his daughter in Killarney, Mrs. J. S. Smith, on the evening of December 31. Mr. Waldie came to Acton in 1882 where he followed his trade of blacksmith until 1882 when he removed to Manitoba. Mr. Waldie was in his 80th year.

### CAMPBELLVILLE

## Paper on Lapland On W.I. Program

The January meeting of the Campbellville Women's Institute met at the home of Mrs. J. K. Mahon on Wednesday, with Mrs. George Inglis presiding and opening with group singing, a New Year's Resolution, poem, Institute Ode and all repeating the Mary Stewart Collect.

The roll call was answered by a current event on Agriculture. Mrs. Lloyd-Bayley gave the secretary's report, Mrs. A. T. Moore the treasurer's report, Mrs. J. K. Mahon the quilt report.

An apron shower will be held in February at the meeting, when Mrs. Elletby, district president, will be the guest speaker. Plans were made for a fashion show to be held in Milton Town Hall next March. Mrs. Roy Parker gave interesting current events.

Mrs. William McLaren gave a paper on Lapland. Mrs. Garnet Whaley rendered a solo accompanied by Mrs. Lloyd Crawford, who then gave the highlights of the fishing industry. Mrs. J. K. Mahon conducted a musical context, with Mrs. Leonard Anderson being the witness.

The meeting closed with the Queen's Refreshment committee were Mrs. Gorgon McPhail, Mrs. Lloyd Bayley, Mrs. Lennard Andrews, Mrs. Garnet Whaley, who assisted the hostess.

### U.K.'S £40 MILLION SCHEME

A £40 million scheme, prepared by the Steel Company of Wales, for the modernization of the Welsh tinplate industry has been approved by the U.K. Iron and Steel Federation. Principal item will be a new cold reduction mill at Velindre near Swansea.

## AT THE CHURCHES

### UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Acton, Ontario  
A FRIENDLY CHURCH  
Rev. E. A. CURRY, B.A., B.D.  
Ministry, B.A., B.D.  
Parsonage—29 Bower Avenue  
Phone 80

Miss G. M. Lampard, A.T.C.M.  
Organist and Choir Leader

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18th, 1953

10:00 a.m.—Sunday School. To combat evil.

11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship. Subject, Let Us Look at Our Church—Our Work and Witness.

7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship. Subject, My First Mission Field.

Thought for the Week  
"Knowledge is worthless unless used for a noble goal."

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18th, 1953

10:00 a.m.—Church School.

11:00 a.m.—Morning Service.

12:15 p.m.—Bible Class.

7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship.

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength."  
A warm welcome awaits you.

### BAPTIST CHURCH

ACTON  
Dwight L. Patterson, Pastor  
Parsonage - 115 Bower Ave.  
Phone 208.

Thursday, January 15, 8:30—Weekly Prayer meeting and Bible study.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18th, 1953

10:00 a.m.—Sunday School with classes for all ages.

11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship. "A Story to Tell to the Nations."

7:00 p.m.—Evening Service.

8:15 p.m.—Weekly Young Peoples' "A Friendly Welcome Awaits You."

### ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH

(Anglican)  
Rev. Ralph E. Price, B.A., B.D.  
Rector

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 18, 1953

8:30 a.m.—Holy Communion

10:00 a.m.—Church School.

11:00 a.m.—Beginners' Class

11:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist

7:00 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon

ALL ARE WELCOME  
Monday, January 19 at 8 p.m. in the Parish Hall, the Annual Vestry Meeting. All members of the parish should attend.

## NORTH EAST WEST SOUTH

### Warrington's Numbers

Last Saturday night all the telephone numbers in Warrington changed at once. Midnight was the chosen hour and at that second all the Halton town's numbers switched into conformity with the plan which is gradually being introduced throughout Canada and the United States. A typical number is Nelson 4-9090. The system will permit more direct long distance calls.

### Miltonian's Search

Mrs. A. L. MacNabb of Milton is helping search the name of someone who sent seeds of Canadian maple to Stonefall Cemetery Harrogate, England, where Canadian service men are buried. A Canadian sent the seeds about five or six years ago; now they have grown into a lovely avenue of maples and the secretary of the Adoption Committee in Harrogate is hunting the donor's name. Mrs. MacNabb corresponds with the secretary, since her son is buried in this English cemetery.

It seems a hopeless task," said Mrs. MacNabb, but she informed the Milton weekly paper this week of the search, as a start. Her address is Box 552, Milton.

### Georgetown's Ten Stories

Last week the Georgetown Herald picked out the ten top news stories of the past year, as the paper did in the New Year's issue. In the first place was the Smith and Stole addition—a 27,000 square foot building which will increase plant employment by 70 people next spring. Second biggest story was the merchants' decision to stay open Friday evenings instead Saturday. Third Ontario championship for the Juvenile C. Other main stories were the approval of an addition to the high school, the choosing of Sybil Bennett and Stan Allen as candidates for the next federal election, opening of the new public school, road paving program, construction of the new Bell Telephone building, St. George's church centennial, creation of the fire area.

Prediction for 1953's big stories are, the introduction of dial phones and fire area operations.

The Herald also chose as the top stories as far as the county as a whole was concerned, beginning with the assessment appeal.

Other news stories which make the "Big Ten" include defeat of a poultry marketing scheme by vote of Ontario poultrymen; opening of Halton Centennial Manor; creation of fire areas with Milton, Acton and Georgetown; election of Ben Rachlin as Acton's mayor in one of the hottest district elections in years; choice of Dave Pelletier as head of Ontario Junior Farmers' election of Wilfred Bird as Queen's Deputy-recve in one of the first such elections in years; choice of a Hornby man, J. A. M. Taylor to a high Masonic office, Grand Second Principal; the accident at Silvercreek in which two young Rockwood men were burned to death in their car; the square dancing competitions at the Royal Winter Fair in which two Halton groups placed well up in the standing.

### Trafalgar's Wickson

The Oakville Record Staff recently asked people at random "Who would you say was the district's man or woman for 1952?" Out of nine answers pointed last week three suggested Joseph Wickson, the reeve of Trafalgar. One man voted for his wife.

## PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

MEDICAL	LEGAL
DR. W. G. C. KENNEY Physician and Surgeon Office—Symon Block, Mill St., Acton Office Phone 78 Residence Church St. Phone 158	C. F. LEATHERLAND Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public Office 22 Phone Res 151 ACTON
DR. D. A. GARRETT Physician and Surgeon Corner of Willow and River Sts. Entrance River Street Acton, Ontario Phone 238	LEVER & HOSKIN Chartered Accountants Successors to JENKINS AND HARDY 1305 Metropolitan Bldg 44 Victoria St., Toronto Em 4-9131
DR. A. I. ARMSTRONG Physician and Surgeon Office—105 Mill St. East PHONE 574	A. J. CRANDELL Chartered Accountant Main Street Georgetown Telephone 654
DR. A. J. BUCHANAN Dental Surgeon Office—Leishman Block, Mill St. Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m. X-RAY TELEPHONE 148	CHIROPRACTOR D. J. ARMSTRONG Doctor of Chiropractic 15 Frederick St. N. Acton PHONE 550
DR. H. LEIB Dental Surgeon Office—Corner Mill and Frederick Streets Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m. TELEPHONE 19 - ACTON	MISCELLANEOUS THE VICTOR B. RUMLEY FUNERAL HOME Funeral Home, Heated Ambulance Phone 30 night or day Serving the community for 46 years

VETERINARY	REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE
B. D. YOUNG, B.V.Sc. C. L. YOUNG, D.V.M. Veterinary Surgeons Office: Brookville, Ontario Phone—Milton 163r21	WRIGHT REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE F. L. WRIGHT N. B. WRIGHT 20 Wilbur St. 89 Macdonnell St. Acton Ont. Guelph, Ont. Phone 95 Phone 4915W Valuators Realtors Insurers Member Appraisal Institute of Canada Members Guelph and District Real-Estate Board Members Guelph and District Insurance Agents' Association
F. G. OAKES, V.S., B.V. Sc. Veterinary Surgeon Office and Residence—Knox Ave. Acton—Phone 130	W. R. BRACKEN Real Estate Insurance Phone 26 Acton List your farms, business or house with us. We invite you to use our facilities in securing a purchase for your property. Lloyd E. Ancliffe R.R. No. 6 Guelph Phone Hespeler 701 Salesman R. F. BEAN General Insurance 280 MILL ST., ACTON Phone 585 OFFICE HOURS 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

TRAVELLERS' GUIDE	GRAY COACH LINES
COACHES LEAVE ACTON Eastbound 8:38 a.m.; 8:58 a.m.; 11:23 a.m.; 2:08 p.m.; 5:08 p.m.; 6:33 p.m.; 8:23 p.m.; 9:58 p.m. Westbound 10:27 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 KIL- chener only) a—Daily except Sunday and holi- days b—Saturday, Sunday and holi- days	COACHES LEAVE ACTON Eastbound Daily 6:40 a.m.; Daily except Sun- days 9:54 a.m.; 7:10 p.m.; Sunday only 8:16 p.m.; Daily except Sun- day Flyer at Georgetown 8:23 a.m.; Daily Flyer at Georgetown, 10:11 p.m. Westbound Daily except Sunday and Mon- day 2:22 a.m.; Sunday and Monday only 12:38 a.m.; daily except Sun- day 8:48 a.m.; 4:50 p.m. (flagstop); 7:44 p.m.; Daily except Saturday and Sunday 6:40 p.m.; Saturday only 1:28 p.m.; Sunday only 8:43 a.m. (flagstop); Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 7:25 p.m.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS
Standard Time Eastbound Daily 6:40 a.m.; Daily except Sun- days 9:54 a.m.; 7:10 p.m.; Sunday only 8:16 p.m.; Daily except Sun- day Flyer at Georgetown 8:23 a.m.; Daily Flyer at Georgetown, 10:11 p.m. Westbound Daily except Sunday and Mon- day 2:22 a.m.; Sunday and Monday only 12:38 a.m.; daily except Sun- day 8:48 a.m.; 4:50 p.m. (flagstop); 7:44 p.m.; Daily except Saturday and Sunday 6:40 p.m.; Saturday only 1:28 p.m.; Sunday only 8:43 a.m. (flagstop); Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 7:25 p.m.

## The Acton Free Press

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G. A. Dilla, Editor and Publisher

BUSINESS AND EDITORIAL OFFICE TELEPHONE 174