

EDITORIAL

Bright and Cheery

Citizens generally appreciated the reduction in the municipal tax rate which has been set for Acton this year. Last year's all time high of 64 mills had a very disturbing effect on citizens. It is evident that the rate could have been at least a mill lower last year in view of the fact that a surplus was carried over into this year's budget. However, this amount raised last year in excess of requirements has been helpful in arriving at this year's rate of 51 mills.

Looking over our exchanges we note that tax reductions are unusual in most municipalities. In Smiths Falls and Bowmanville where new assessments apply for the first time the mill rates are 51 and 43 mills. It would seem that Acton's rate of 51 mills is in keeping with other municipalities where the new assessment has been used. The 1952 rates in Milton were 56 mills, Georgetown 43 mills, Burlington 32 mills and Oakville 35 mills. The new rates for 1953 have not been announced in these municipalities but Bronte with a rate of 38 mills last year has gone over the 70 mill mark this year.

If tax rates are to be maintained at the present level a duty devolves on every citizen in the matter of demands on public bodies. Acton has had some heavy major expenditures which will determine a fixed taxation for years to come. Fortunately most of them are at favourable interest rates so that principal owing will be reduced more rapidly. The improvements were all necessary if Acton is to maintain its place in the general growth of Canada.

That Acton's growth can be maintained and public services given which are comparable to those which citizens in cities and all large towns enjoy and the tax rate of the present year levied at the rate of 51 mills is a credit to those who serve on the municipal council and other public bodies in the town. It is hoped the peak in municipal taxation here is a matter of history and the present rate can be maintained without curtailing a program for essential expansion.

"You are as young as your face, as old as your doubt; as young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear; as young as your hope, as old as your despair. Years may wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul."—From a scroll which hung in the South Pacific headquarters of General MacArthur throughout World War II.

Experts and Specialists

We are losing our respect for experts and specialists. There was a time, when there weren't so many of them, that an expert could perform a task that left the ordinary layman in awe. Many of the so-called experts of today still leave the ordinary layman in awe—especially after he has paid the account and finds the trouble has not been rectified.

After all, an expert or specialist is only a man or woman who can do one thing well. Usually he deduces that all the trouble lies in his specialty or else you diagnose the trouble and call in the expert in the field. You either find out your deductions are wrong or you've called in the wrong expert. We're developing a greater respect in our own mind for the fellow we used to hold up to ridicule as a jack-of-all-trades. His diagnosis was sometimes erratic and many a time unexplainable but he had a broad viewpoint which took in the whole situation and often times came up with the solution of making the thing work.

Perhaps the trouble lies in the fact too many folks take unto themselves the title of expert or specialist. After all there seems to be no set standard of what an individual must possess in above average knowledge to assume the title of specialist. We don't advocate either that our institutions founded to spread greater knowledge assume the task of issuing degrees of "Expert" or "Specialist." We wouldn't advocate either that governments at any level designate who is expert and who is not. They seem well loaded themselves.

Matter of fact the more we write and think about it the more involved we become. The only conclusion we really have is that the expert and specialist field is overcrowded and maybe we ought to do more for ourselves as individuals in an effort to eliminate the surplus.

Charters of the Conservator

The announcement the past week that the Thomson Company had acquired the Brampton Conservator and a couple of suburban Toronto papers was of more than passing interest. The company headed by Roy H. Thomson already owned 15 papers across Canada and one in Florida. The president of the company is a very active individual. He is past president of the Canadian Daily Newspapers Association and president of Canadian Press and a candidate for the Conservative party in one of the Toronto ridings. Some of us who think we are busy in smaller fields just sit back and marvel.

The passing of the Brampton Conservator into other hands from the Charters family seems hard to realize by some of us who have been in the newspaper field for quite a few years. The Conservator is 79 years old and for 63 years of its existence the name of Charters has been associated with this fine weekly journal. We have personally been acquainted with three generations of the Charters in Brampton and it seems difficult to realize that other owners have acquired the interest of this great family of newspaper men so long associated with the Conservator. The new owners have a high standard to measure up to in a community newspaper.

But the Charters family will not retire from the publishing field in Brampton, we are glad to learn. In the same announcement as the sale of the Conservator comes the news of an expansion in the Charters commercial printing plant and the continuance of printing in this plant of a number of periodicals which the firm has been looking after for some time. We wish them continued success but we'll miss at weekly newspaper conventions seeing a Charters from the Conservator.

Some folks seem to attempt the difficult feat of administering a kick in the pants at the same time as a pat on the back.

Budgets and the People

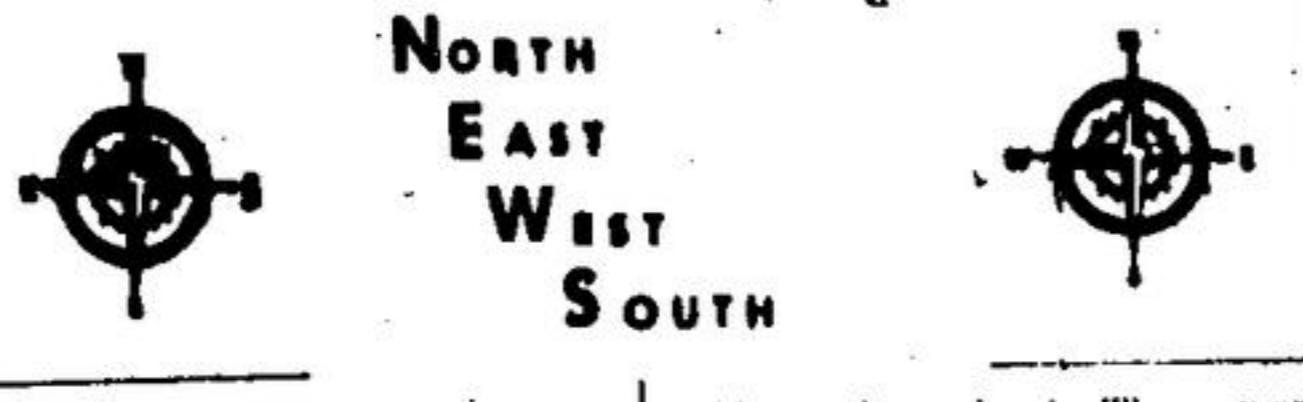
Most taxation budgets seem to have a little sunshine sprinkled in them but it's to be hoped the sunshine is not extracted before it gets to the taxpayer. Such was the case in our experience with newsprint. The sales tax was eliminated in the recent Dominion budget and an increase of \$10 per ton in the price becomes effective the first of the month. One has to work fast to take advantage of benefits calculated for the advantage of the consumer.

Last week the provincial budget announced a change in grants to aid municipalities. One of the features which will be appreciated is the fact that municipalities are not obligated to spend more funds in order to take advantage of the provincial assistance. Such has been the case in the past and has been a factor in increasing municipal taxation. Complete details of the new system of grants were published last week and in Halton the net increase amounts to \$41,215.

One of the items which confuses us in the new grants is the amounts paid per capita to the municipalities. In Halton municipalities over 5,000 population receive \$1.75 per capita. For municipalities in the 2,000 to 5,000 group the rate is \$1.60 and under 2,000 the rate is \$1.50. In view of the fact that provincial levies for taxes are paid on the same basis, no matter where one lives the discrimination against the smaller municipalities seems difficult to understand. The taxes on gasoline and liquor are just as high in Nassagaweya as those paid in Nelson or Trafalgar. The cost of motor vehicle licenses and permits is the same no matter where one resides. Perhaps there is a logical answer to the variance in rates.

Looking at it from another viewpoint, the difference in rates may be the Ontario Legislature's method of providing an incentive for the smaller communities to get bigger and the bigger centres to become more thickly populated so that the per capita rate of assistance will be greater. No matter what the planning back of the change Ontario municipalities will welcome any amounts that will assist them in maintaining reasonable tax rates and the elimination of the policy of spending more to get a little.

The most utterly lost day of all days, is that in which you have not once laughed.—Chamfort



County on Coronation

Likely every coronation committee is wondering what the next town is going to do. "Heading over the Halton county newspapers, we see that Bronte is tentatively considering a street dance, a field day, and a fireworks display.

In Acton, the acouts are wondering about a beacon fire. We at ways understood beacon fires were lit when another fire was seen, and had to be on top of a hill. If acouts undertake a string of local beacons, Milton acouts would be the envy of the county with the Mountain to light their fire on.

In Burlington, the Legion is planning a week-long carnival in the arena—yes, week-long! Service clubs there are to be asked for their suggestions. The possibility of souvenirs for the children was mentioned, too.

Another School
Another new public school opened in Halton county. It's Oakwood public school in Oakville, and follows right on the footsteps of new schools at Acton and Georgetown and the Lorne Skuce school in the township.

The crowd at the opening was told that the school was the first complete school building to be built in Oakville in 30 years, although the town's population had doubled in that time.

Safe After All
Friends in Limestone and Georgetown who thought former residents, Mr and Mrs. Ouke Mulder and their young daughter Frances had died in the recent floods in England, were overjoyed to discover that the information was untrue last week.

A Limestone friend, Mrs. John Noble, wrote in the town clerk of the village in England where they lived and received not a word of their death but a letter from the

Milners themselves

They were forced to move upstairs in their home but were safe and sound.

No Horse in Burlington
The last delivery horse in Burlington has left. The dairy has gone mechanical. Tony, the last horse, came originally from the farm of John Marshall near Milton, who now lives in Burlington. He has been sold to a Hamilton dairy.

Milton Purchase
Land beside Milton's post office has been purchased from "Hot Majesty the Queen" for the erection of public washrooms there. (A Milton industrialist, P. L. Robertson, left money in his will for the town, with the stipulation it be used for washrooms.)

Union Arrives
The Ford plant progress toward completion of the union is pieced. George Burt, a director and leading official of the United Automobile Workers of America, has already rented space for union offices. The location is just a stone's throw away from the plant, at the junction of the Lower Middle road and the Queen Elizabeth Way.

Campbellville Leads
Since the Campbellville correspondent reported that snowdrops were blooming in a garden there on February 22, we have been watching to see if any other district newspaper can beat the record. But we haven't noticed any better sign of spring, and think Mrs. Lloyd Crawford's Campbellville snowdrops must "take the cake" this year.

Another Folk School
We see by the Erin Advocate that the secretary of the national farm forum, Floyd Griesbach, conducted a folk school a week or so ago at Acton. (Halton's folk school was held recently, too, at the home of Prof and Mrs. Alex Sim.)

Reading Between The Lines

EDUCATION CLAIMS OVER ONE-THIRD OF TAX BILL; WHERE DO TAXES GO?

by Jim Dills

Council has completed its tedious hours of work on the 1953 budget and managed to set the mill rate at a respectable 51, which is the important item to the taxpayer. It's pretty difficult to understand just where the dollars and cents of taxes go but in the municipal field of taxation, the services are usually more evident than in any of the other areas of taxation.	Garbage collection 3.20
In an effort to find just what the tax dollar does that the individual property owner contributes, here is a breakdown of the taxes on an average assessment of \$2,000.	Public welfare, relief, indigent patients, etc. 2.92
According to the 51 mill rate, it will cost the property owner \$102 in taxes for 1953.	Total \$102.00
Here's where it will be spent:	Some of the headings may need a little explanation. For example, the county rate. That is the sum of money paid by the town to the County of Halton as its share of county road costs, county jail, Halton Centennial Manor and other expenditures of the county council. This amount is based on the assessment of each municipality and that is the figure that has been contested by the municipalities for several years.
Public School 336.24	General administration and recreation and community service include the salaries of the clerk-treasurer, assessor, solicitor, stenographers, as well as the grant to the band, park and arena maintenance.
High School 7.14	Public welfare includes the accounts or relief to needy citizens, payment of hospital bills where the patient is unable to meet the cost and the town is responsible and past sanatorium care for
County rate 9.62	
Debt service 18.50	
General administration, recreation, community service 8.00	
Police protection 9.00	
Fire protection 2.92	
Public works, roads, culverts, etc. 10.40	

(Continued on Page Six)

AT THE Churches

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA
KNOX CHURCH, ACTON
REV. ROBERT H. ARMSTRONG, M.A., B.D., Minister
SUNDAY, MARCH 15th, 1953
10:00 a.m.—Church School
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship
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 206
Thursday, March 12 8 p.m.—Prayer meeting
SUNDAY, MARCH 15th, 1953
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship
7:30 p.m.—Evening Worship
8:30 p.m.—Young Peoples
Coming Sunday, March 22, 7:30 p.m.—Quartet from College Street Baptist Church, Toronto

ZION TABERNACLE
Water Street, Georgetown
Opposite Post Office
Pastor, Rev. F. M. Fletcher
Phone 750W
We invite you to worship with us on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
You will enjoy the full gospel message and the lively singing

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
Acton, Ontario
A FRIENDLY CHURCH
Rev. E. A. Curry, B.A., B.D., Minister
Parsonage—29 Bower Avenue
Phone 60
Miss O. M. Lampard, A.T.C.M., Organist and Choir Leader
SUNDAY, MARCH 15th, 1953
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School Class begins at ten o'clock
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship. Mr. Gordon Sheaff, principal of McTavish School, in Toronto, representing the Ontario Temperance Federation
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship. Moving pictures, sound color and black and white.
Thought for the Week
Faith has an eagle's eye and a lion's heart. It has a lion's heart to bear present evils and it has an eagle's eye to see future good.—Robinson 1859 A.D.

ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH (Anglican)
Rev. Ralph E. Price, B.A., B.D., Rector
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
March 15th, 1953
9:00 a.m.—Holy Communion
10:00 a.m.—Church School
11:00 a.m.—Beginners' Class
11:00 a.m.—Choral Communion
7:00 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon
Wednesday, March 18—Lenten service, 8 p.m.
Monday, March 16—Men's Club at the Parish Hall
ALL WELCOME

THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

Back in 1903

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, March 12, 1903

Keep clear of La Grippe—if you can.
Heave Swackhamer informs the Free Press that a new industry has been secured for Acton and will very shortly commence operations. It is a broom factory, the managers of which were here last week aping out the land.

A quartette of young fellows were guilty of unseemly and illegal conduct at the corner of Mill and Main Streets on Sunday evening. They indulged in song and dance antics to the intense annoyance of passers-by.

Inspector J. B. Deacon visited Acton schools this week.
Very gratifying indeed were the results of the anniversary services in the Baptist church last Sunday. All felt profited by the timely and eloquent addresses by Rev. Dr. Farmer of McMaster University, Toronto. The music by the choir assisted by the Georgetown male quartet was helpful and enjoyed by all.

The last two years have wrought a marked change in the status of Canada among the nations. Unquestionably this change is largely an outcome of the period of phenomenal prosperity into which Canada is now entering.

The continued sale of large tracts of farming land in the North West foreshadows a big immigration movement this year.

After eight weeks of fairly good continuous sleighing the bottom fell out of it last week.
There were thirty-seven cats of hemlock bark in the G.T.R. yards yesterday.

Back in 1933

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, March 9, 1933

Not many snowbanks to be taken away by the spring rains this year. The snow shovels had to be brought out of storage again for duty yesterday.

Mr. E. Swenson had the misfortune to fall while skating and broke a bone in his left wrist.
The three act rural comedy, presented by the Actondale U.F.W.P.O. in the Town Hall drew a good attendance and provided a splendid evening's entertainment. "Deacon Dubbs" was the presentation and provided plenty of amusement.

The carnival put on by the Acton Committee and Acton Business Men's Association was a splendid success last Thursday. Gay and colorful decorations brightened this spot with colored lights and colorful floodlights. Between one and two hundred appeared in costume. Burlesque boxing proved the most amusing feature. Two teams of business men faced off in a burlesque hockey match. The players were all in costume and the game was played with hockey sticks and a soft ball. A successful drama culminated this event and kept the fun going until midnight.

Acton hockey team played in Brantford on Saturday night and lost to the tune of 5-2.
DIED

CAMERON At his late residence, John Street, Acton, on Monday, March 6, 1933, John Cameron, late-lyved husband of the late Jessie Campbell, in his 87th year.

LAMBERT At the home of his daughter, Mrs. Robt. Iron, Main Street, Acton, on Monday, March 6th, 1933, Ralph Matthias Lambert, beloved husband of the late Jane Campbell, in his 85th year.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

MEDICAL	LEGAL
DR. W. G. C. KENNEY Physician and Surgeon Office in Symon Block, Mill St., Acton Office Phone 78 Residence Church St. Phone 150	C. F. LEATHERLAND Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public Office 22 - Phone Itas 101 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 108 Mill St East PHONE 574	ALBERT J. CRANDELL Chartered Accountant Main Street—Georgetown Office 654 Itas 176H Open Wed. and Fri. Evenings and all day Saturday
DENTAL	CHIROPRACTOR
DR. A. J. BUCHANAN Dental Surgeon Office—Leishman Block, Mill St. Office Hours 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. X-RAY TELEPHONE 148	D. J. ARMSTRONG Doctor of Chiropractic 15 Frederick St. N. Acton PHONE 350
DR. H. LEIB Dental Surgeon Office—Corner Mill and Frederick Streets Office Hours 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. TELEPHONE 19 - ACTON	MISCELLANEOUS
VETERINARY	THE VICTOR B. RUMLEY FUNERAL HOME Funeral Home, Heated Ambulance Phone 30 night or day Serving the community for 46 years
B. D. YOUNG, B.V.Sc. C. L. YOUNG, D.V.M. Veterinary Surgeons Office—Brookville, Ontario Phone—Milton 165r21	OLIVE M. LAMPARD, A.T.C.M., R.M.T. Organist and Choir Leader United Church Teacher of Piano Studio—United Church, Thursday Studio 14 Park Ave., Guelph TELEPHONE 296
F. G. OAKES, B.V.Sc. Veterinarian Office and Residence—24 Knox Ave. Acton—Phone 130	TRAVELLERS' GUIDE
REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE	GRAY COACH LINES COACHES LEAVE ACTON Eastbound 6:30 a.m. 8:50 a.m. 11:35 a.m. 2:05 p.m. 5:05 p.m. 6:55 p.m. 8:25 p.m.
WRIGHT REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE F. L. WRIGHT N. B. WRIGHT 20 Wilbur St. 60 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	Westbound 7:27 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 Kitchener only. Daily except Sunday and holidays Saturday, Sunday and holidays
W. R. BRACKEN Real Estate Insurance Phone 26 Acton Last your farms, business or house with us. We invite you to use our facilities in securing a purchase for your property. Lloyd E. Auliffe RR No. 6 Guelph Phone Hespeler 701 Salesman	CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS
R. F. BEAN General Insurance 290 MILL ST., ACTON Phone 585 OFFICE HOURS 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Eastbound Daily 6:40 a.m. Daily except Sundays 9:4 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 2:22 a.m. Sunday and Monday only 12:28 a.m.; daily except Sunday 8:45 a.m.; 6:50 p.m. (flagstop); 7:44 p.m.; Daily except Saturday and Sunday 6:10 p.m.; Saturday only 2:36 p.m.; Sunday only 9:43 a.m. (flagstop); Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 7:05 p.m.

The Acton Free Press

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G. A. Dills, Editor and Publisher

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