# Victoria Day Isn't 24th

This year we find a new step in a sensible direction of observance of public holidays. Victoria Day will be observed not on May 24th, but on the Monday preceding that date. Mid-week holidays are in this-present age a nuisance. We can recall back in the days of good Queen Victoria that a holiday made little difference on what day of the week it fell. That was before the days of easy travel and good roads and when industry was in small units and processes could easily be halted or deferred a day.

Hereafter Victoria Day will come on a Monday. We're all for such a movement that might also take in Dominion Day and make it the first Monday of July. But perhaps its just as well to go easy. This year Victoria Day comes on a Monday, when folks can enjoy a long week-end. Dominion Day comes right smack in the middle of the week on a Wednesday. It's a good year to see which day suits the most people.

Newsapaper publishers who recently faced another \$10 increase in the price of newsprint will shed a tear for the poor paper manufacturers. One firm reports profits last year of \$4.6 million, an increase of \$600,000 over the previous year. Another firm had earnings of almost \$10 million, after deducting \$4.2 million for depreciation and repletion, and having a net profit of \$3.8 million.

# Taking a Second Look

bast February we attended a directors' meeting of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers' Association at which a brief was given approval for submission to the Special Committee of the House of Commons on Broadcasting. The brief pointed out the need for a review of public ownership of broadcasting, in view of the fact that now TV had come on the scene, and whereas radio broadcasting cost the public treasury only a couple of million dollars, the new type of public entertainment was likely to cost tens of millions of dollars.

The brief pointed out that while all Canadians would pay for publicly owned TV stations, not all Canadians could secure reception. It was questioned whether so much money should be spent to entertain Canadians when so much was required for defence purposes. In the light of this new circus for the public, the brief stated that our whole policy of CBC-TV should be reviewed. It suggested that perhaps taxpayers would rather have a ten million cut in taxation than the new entertainment. We read the brief before we voted on it last February and we have read it several times since.

We were a bit surprised to read an editorial in the Toronto Star headed "Undermining the CBC." The editorial went on to show what a fine public service CBC had rendered and expressing a shocked feeling that any group would dare to suggest any change.

The submission of the Weekly Newspaper Directors did not in any place we can find say that CBC had not given good service. The heading on the brief was "Government and Mass Communication-Let us take a Second Look." When it comes to expenditure of public money by the millions on entertainment for those who can afford TV sets and only those who can receive the programs is there any harm in taking a second look?

Of course if we lived in Toronto, we might view the matter differently, but being outside the realm of cultural influence of the big cities, which will receive the most benefit of the public-paidfor entertainment, we think the weekly newspaper editors did Canadians a good service in urging the Committee of the House of Commons to take a second look before embarking on costly public circuses and in raising the basic issue back of public ownership.

Perhaps the Star didn't read the brief thoroughly before making its comment, and perhaps it's a bit peeved that the weekly press raised an issue which is said to have provided more subjects for consideration than any other brief received by the committee on radio this year.

From the Atchison Globe, Atchison, Kansas The world is divided into three groups: the small one which makes things happen, the larger one which watches things happen, and the multitude which never knows what hap-

# Still the Biggest

This week your editor was one of the guest of the Ford Motor Company to see the first car come off the assembly line in the plant in Trafalgar Township. Since the visit was on Monday of this week we must reserve our aditorial comment until next week's issue.

We've been reading a lot about this new giant industrial motor plant that is making quite a transformation in the south part of Halton. Some way or other we can't help recall how the late Reeve Morden of Trafalgar used to tell us on every occasion that was possible, and particularly at Warden's Dinners what a big share of the county taxes were paid by Trafalgar Township. That was in the days when Trafalgar was farm and residential properties. It certainly appears that Trafalgar is likely to hold the lead for many years to come. More comment next week on the industrial life of Trafalgar Township.

Cream producers were told that United States citrus growers doubled their Canadian sales in 13 years by spending 3 per cent of their gross on advertising, whereas the Canadian dairy industry spends one-fifteenth of one per cent.

### What's Land Worth?

Not many years ago it was said the prices being paid for farms only included the price of ship. the buildings and the land was going for nothing. In Halton land prices have been bringing pretty Society's annual musical review fair prices in the south end of the county, but not Spring Thaw in Toronto will see a as much as some folks in other sections think. We need to look at land prices in a more reasonable light than some of the prices we hear quoted in the northern part of the county.

Recently a big industry bought land in Nelson Township for a new factory. Railway and highway transportation adjoined and the price was \$900 per acre. A block of 500 acres directly across from the new Ford plant brought \$1000 an acre. Another farm of 80 acres well located in the new sailing! industrial section of Halton brought less than \$700 per acre.

Halton County has an assessed acreage of 227,319 acres. Of this amount about 4000 acres are within the towns of the county and roughly 223,000 in the townships or about fifty-five times as much farm lands as town property. There's a lot of room for selection of location by any industry and it might be well to keep these figures in mind when making valuations.

Fergus hit an all-time high tax rate of 87 mills this year. Reassessment appears the only thing that brings mill rates down but really doesn't affect the amount of taxation

# Helping Hand to All

This week there commenced in the district one of the most worthwhile appeals with which where the attendants are netting acres of George Fox's farm, just the people of this community are faced each He says he expects the catch to fronting on the Dundas highway. year. The Salvation Army is making its annual mount as warmer weather comes. As you might have guessed, the appeal for funds with which to continue providing help for the helpless.

The Salvation Army in Canada is meeting human need-irrespective of race, creed or color. People of all ages, in spiritual or meterial difficulty, find help and hope in its more than 100 social loss of two settings of eggs," the ville and Trafalgar concerning joint service institutions and numerous Corps centres. The redemption of the soul . . . the rehabilitation of the body . . . these are the twin aims of this "Army of the Helping Hand."

A world without a Sabbath would be like a man without a smile, like a summer without flowers, and tike a homestead without a parden. It is the joyous day of the whole week .- H. W. Beecher.

# **Bumper Chasers**

"Bumper chasers" who follow too closely and cause rear end accidents are in for trouble under a new section of the Highway Traffic Act, which reads: "a driver . . . shall not follow another motor vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent having due regard for the speed of such vehicle and the traffic upon and the condition of the highway . . ."

Licence suspension can result from a conviction under this section following an accident the distance regarded as "reasonable and prudent" is about one-car-length for each 10 miles. an hour of speed.

# The Acton Free

The Only Paper Ever Published in Actor



Founded in 1875 and published every Thursday at 56 Mill St. E., Acton, Ont. Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations, the C.W.N.A., and the Ontario-Quebec Division of the C.W.N.A. Advertising rates on request. Subscriptions payable in advance, \$2.50 in Canada; \$3.50 in the United States; six months \$1.50; single copies &c. Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa,

G. A. Dills, Editor and Publisher BUSINESS EDITORIAL OFFICE TELEPHONE 174

### Reading Between The Lines

# BUSINESS DONE IN "EASY-GOING JOG-TROT SORT OF STYLE" IN 1875

by Jim Dilla

The foundation of any newspaper makes a statement of policy necessary and the policy is based on the personal opinions of an editor and publisher. Of course there is also the matter of location and equipment. But in the first issues of the Free Press we find the customary statement of policy as well as a pleasant glance at the village just two years after its incorpora-

In those early years affiliation with some political party was almost a necessity for a newspaper's continued existence. Of course in those days too, every man was a "party man" with a very small percentage of the population neutrals. The pendulum of time has jogged the clock along and now many are neutrals.

When the Free Press got under way with Volume 1 No. 1 Joseph Hacking declared "we propose that the Free Press shall not be devoted to the interest of any political party . . . What matters it whether we howl against the Tories or shout ourselves hoarse in reviling the Grits? Who cares?".

Things looked bright in Actor to Joseph Hacking in 1875. A number of villagers put their heads together and determined upon having a monthly fair. I guess that was something similar to today's market.

The Acton Plow Co. was just being formed to manufacture plows on a large scale. Acton would have another industry to add to the list.

(Continued on Page Three)



North EAST WEST South



Largest Ever One of the two Oakville papers, the Oakville-Trafalgar Journal, had 72 pages last week, and believes it heard somebody in the house. She the largest ever published in the struck a match to investigate and county. A Ford Commemorative section of 40 pages dealt exclusively with the new plant in the town-

Performing Haltonites Anyone seeing the New Play busy Haltonite in the cast. He's Bill Copeland, son of Lt. Col. and Mrs. W. M. Copeland, eighth line north, Trafalgar. As well as appearing in Spring Thaw, Copeland appeared in the play Angelique at Hart House theatre early this month. He also writes and gives the prologues for Victory at Sea on television. He studies at the Royal Conservatory of Music and the Conservatory Opera school and when he has time, there is building, farming and his favorite pasttime,

treads the boards is British Betty Leighton, who lives in Oakville. She is often seen on television, and has two roles in the Shakespeare festival in Stratford.

Cuts Wood at 98 Bronte's oldest citizen marked his 98th birthday on May 12. We don't know if his favorite occupation aids in his longevity, but we'll pass it on, anyway. Each day he confident he'll reach the century mark. A local bakery has promised him a 100th birthday cake! Trout for Streams

Halton game warden Dudley Hitchcox has been busy restocking the Credit River, Black River, Sixteen Mile Creek and Twelve Mile ing plant, employing between 30 Creek with brown and speckled and 50 people. The Northwest Tra-

projects is a sea lamprey weir at the planning board and neighbors amouth of the Twelve Mile Creek, gree. The factory site is on 10 about 500 or so lampreys every day. east of the Shell service station, (We wonder if he didn't think it plant will supply Ford . . . asked was warm enough already?). The why they chose Palermo, plant of-

game warden explained.

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SUNDAY, MAY 17th, 1953

Rural Life Sunday

Christian character - develop-

Rev Hugh MacTaggart of Bar-

rie Hill and Barrie Hill choir

10.00 a.m.-Sunday School. For

1100 a.m.-Morning Worship. The

7.00 p.m.-Evening Worship Ser-

Thought for the Week

for the world but to infuse the

spirit of Christ into the organizat-

**BAPTIST CHURCH** 

ACTON

Dwight L. Patterson, Pastor

19 Wilbur St. - Phone 62j

Thursday, May 14, 8.30 - Prayer

SUNDAY, MAY 17th, 1953

11.00 am.-Morning Worship, "The

Friday, May 15, 8.00-B.Y.P.U.

10.00 a.m.-Sunday School.

7.30 p.m.—Evening Service.

Moslem Menace."

"It is not the business of Christanity to provide an organization

(Dr. Fisher)

monette.

ions of the world."

Meeting.

Noise in the House? Last week Mrs. Freda Morcon of Sixth Line, Oakville, thought she pretty soon she heard more - the sound of fire reels of Trafalgar No. 2 and Oakville brignor The flaming head of the match ignited the curtains in her room. A neighbor take, but the township firemen put the past week. out the fire that by that time had

devoured the bedclothes, too. After the firemen left the fire broke out again in a partition. This time the Oakville brigade roared to

The police said that as far as they can determine, there was no intruder in Mrs. Morcon's house when she struck the match.

### Beware!

Anyone who travels to the Dundas Highway or Queen Elizabeth Highway through Palermo had better keep this in mind - the Another Halton resident who Northwest Trafalgar Ratepayers' Association has decided to ask the Trafalgar council to have the speed limit through the village set at 30 m.p.h. Also on the request list is a traffic light at the corner of the Second Line and Dundas Highway. As a matter of fact, drivers anywhere in Trafalgar must beware. The township has approved the purchase of an electrically-operated. completely automatic speed timing cuts wood. He and his wife are device. It will clock cars going between 18 and 90 miles an hour. It will cost about \$500 and Chief Oliver says it's "foolproof,"

> More Industry! There's a good chance that Palermo may soon have a metal stampfalgar Ratepayers' Association have

Another of the game warden's approved the factory, provided the

weir protects the young trout up- ficials said they thought labor relations there would be "pleasant." Fish catches are reported all over | Relations in another part of Tra-Halton. And two Acton men have falgar aren't so pleasant. In fact, been fined for shooting ducks al- the Oakville Record-Star terms ready. "A dead duck means the "delicate" relations between Oak-

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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KNOX CHURCH, ACTON

REV. ROBERT H. ARMSTRONG

M.A., B.D., Minister

SUNDAY, MAY 17th, 1953

A Warm Welcome Awaits You

ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH

(Anglican)

Rev Ralph E Price, BA, BD

Rector

SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION

DAY

May 17th, 1953

Musionary Sunday

900 am.-Holy Communion

1100 a.m.-Choral Communion.

7.00 p.m.-Evensong and sermon

high priest, that is passed into the

heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let

us come boldly unto the throne of

grace, that we may obtain mercy.

and find grace to help in time of

Last year over 5,000 Canadians

received temporary food, tempor-

ary shelter, clothing or medical

services through the Red Crass

Disaster Services.

Hebrews 4: 14-16.

"Seeing then that we have a great

10.00 a.m .- Church School.

11 00 a.m. Beginners Class

11.00 a.m -Morning Worship.

7.00 p.m .- Evening Worship

# THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

### **Back in 1903**

of Thursday, May 14th, 1963

For some time negotiations have been in progress with a view to amalgamation of the glove business of W. J.-Chapman, Wingham, with that of the Canada Glove Works here. Arrangements are now about completed and Mr. Chapman and his works will soon be settled in

by Flora Speight and Fern Brown; close. solos by Bertie Smith, Amy Speight language by Miss Maggie Smith, were declared the winners. Mr. H. P. Moore presided.

Acton Junior Baseball played and defeated Milton Saturday to the tune of 32 to 26 runs. It was a very poor exhibition of baseball, Acton having twenty-five errors and Milton twentyseven to their credit.

The pretty dandelion profusely decorates the lawns now. Acton's streets lined with shade trees are handsome with the attractive vercalled the Trafalgar brigade by mis- nal foliage which has developed

# Back in 1933

of Thursday, May 11th, 1923

The grass at the park had its

first cutting last week. The newly organized Peel and Haiton - Ex-Warden's -- Association held their first banquet in the Victoria Hotel, Brampton, on Friday evening, at which their wives were

The Free Press Local Sketch contest closed last Thursday and the The anniversary entertainment judges assembled on Monday for given by the Junior League last their task. The individuals sket-Friday evening was an event of ched were A. Mason, A. T. Brown. interest The program included B. D. Rachlin, Chas. W. Wilson and addresses by Rev. A. E. Smith, E. E. Barr. The prizes were award-Pastor, and Mrs. J. W. Oram, Sup- ed to first J. G. Ramsden; second erintendent; music by the League; H. V. Dron, third Mrs. J. Kentner recitations by Bessie Husband, Ab- and fourth Mrs. A. J. Murray. The bie Taylor, Myrtle Matthews; duet guesses on the weights were very

At the regular meeting of the and Hazel Agnew; instrumental Parkview Athletic Club a miniaduet by Lottle and Hazel Mason; ture six day running race took several interesting dialogues and place. It had the thrills and spills choruses and a well-organized drill. of the real thing. After continued A unique feature was the render- running for half an hour the team ing of two hymns in the mute of N. Anderson and D. Brown

The members of the World Club Friendship Club of Dublin Street United Church, Guelph, presented fine pageant and concert in the United Church, Acton, on Monday evening. The pageant was entitled 'The Striking of Canadas Hour." it was under the auspices of the Women's Missionary Society.

> COOK - At the Guelph General Hospital, on Wednesday, May 10, 1933, Esther Smith, beloved wife of the late E. K. Cook, in her

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