

EDITORIAL

We Warned You

One week and over 3000 miles since our last editorial writing and again on Monday we write these columns on the C.N.R. somewhere in Northern Ontario. We've been to Saskatoon out on the prairies at a gathering of newspaper editors from coast to coast and we warned you last week that these columns would undoubtedly be filled with only the things that have occupied the attention of your editor for the past week.

According to the railway time tables and our calculations it's about 1600 odd miles by rail from Acton to Saskatoon. From the statistics published in the literature concerning Saskatoon, it is a city of 54,000 today which is roughly a growth of better than 1,000 a year since in 1903 the population was but 113. In 1953 Saskatchewan is celebrating its 50th anniversary. It's a young country and many of us can recall when the trips west were considered almost as globe encircling as a trip to Africa.

Now the trains and planes carry passengers in both directions in luxurious comfort with sleeping and eating facilities that the pioneers of 50 years ago would have thought impossible and have taken a spirit of adventure from a trip anywhere across Canada. We always are amazed at the travel time to get away from our own province of Ontario and sometimes we're going to memorize for reference at all times just how many times bigger our own province is than the yardstick of Texas which seems to be used by most of those who live south of the border.

More Western than the West

It didn't matter whether you came from Nova Scotia, British Columbia or staid old Ontario. Arrival of the trains in Saskatoon made you aware that for three days you were going to be western. Ten gallon hats, plaid shirts and overalls were the ordinary attire around the Bessborough Hotel in Saskatoon for three days and only sissies wore ties or buttoned their shirts at the neck.

The delegates didn't wear badges but had brand identifications. They assembled at the trading post and meals were known as chow. We doubt if Saskatoon in years has been as western in make-up as it was last week. One large store sold out of plaid shirts and western hats in the popular sizes. We doubt if we'll ever wear again the monstrosity in which we garbed and it was an even more horrible shirt that won the prize for being the most colorful. It will be nice and cosy appearing about next February and perhaps less scratchy.

We'll skip the business sessions and the things that interest only those in the printing and publishing business. But we do want you to know that on only one afternoon was business tossed overboard and only entertainment prevailed. Breakfasts started at eight each morning. There were speakers and/or entertainment at every luncheon or dinner gathering.

Speakers and Features

T. R. Melville Ness used as the subject of an address people in the news, placing them in three classes: the ordinary folks who do things without thought of publicity or recognition; and the other two groups who seek publicity for themselves or their products and the third group who wanted to keep their names out of the paper in their escapades that made the news.

That evening we heard Donald Gordon, president of the C.N.R. in an address entitled, "How would you run the railroad?" After listening to Mr. Gordon and after spending five nights and four days on the C.N.R. trains and three days and three nights in the C.N.R. Bessborough Hotel in Saskatoon we haven't any suggestions to offer Mr. Gordon on how we would run the railroads. Matter of fact, we think they are being run quite efficiently and we are quite content to leave the job with Mr. Gordon and his associates. This Canada, of ours, with its wide expanses has quite a problem in getting people and goods from place to place in its big and small centres.

That evening on the program was a group of young girls known as the Rosetown Fireside Chorus. They drove 90 miles to Saskatoon for the occasion. Rosetown is a town of 2500 and the group that Mrs. John Pickney presented to the

newspaper editors from other small towns was a challenge and a real source of pride. They compared very favorably with the Leslie Bell singers, better known in Ontario, who have all of Toronto from which to draw talent. They are a delightful group of singers.

At another luncheon given by the T. Eaton Co. we heard vocal numbers by Mr. Vic Lester, a very fine tenor singer and Mr. Harry Jones, who gave delightful numbers on the electric organ.

Premier and Presentations

We've been wondering just how we would describe to you the evening when we were the guests of the Province of Saskatchewan and the speaker was the premier of the province whom everybody, it seems, calls just Tommy Douglas. Perhaps we might describe this boyish looking leader as both speaker and entertainer. He had his audience in a very happy and receptive mood when he gave some heavy statistics to illustrate the greatness of the Province of Saskatchewan.

The only C.C.F. premier in the country is a fluent speaker and an enthusiastic booster for his province. He doesn't use a prepared text in his addresses but just some hastily compiled notes. He reminded me very much of the late Mitchell Hepburn, a former premier of Ontario. Mr. Douglas is young, aggressive and has a ready tongue and while we met few people who claimed to belong to the C.C.F. Party, he is a friend of most everyone and a very approachable man in high office.

That was a big night of the convention and the awards were given out for the various competitions and Mrs. Dills and the editor brought home a certificate acclaiming the Free Press the first in its class for an all-round newspaper and the Champion third in the same class with only a few points separating the papers in the judging.

There were presentations to retiring officers and the introduction of the new president, Ken Walls, editor of the Barrie Examiner. With "Slim Greene" western broadcaster of *Neighborhood News* at the piano how that crowd of 400 made the banquet hall of the Bessborough Hotel echo.

Busiest man of the night was Dean Miller of *Canadian Weekly* Editor who was everywhere photographing the events of the night.

Western Entertainment

The afternoon and evening of Friday were headed as western entertainment. There were no business sessions that afternoon and evening. We were guests at a real western rodeo held at the fair grounds. We took pictures of the mounties with pretty girls and when the bucking broncos were let loose crowded close to the fence to get close-ups in color. There were plenty of others taking pictures from the best suited corner outside the fence.

We hope we got some good views before a horse named "Sawbones" threw his rider to the ground and headed straight for photographer's corner and cleared the fence. We lost a great chance to get a close up of horse steaks in full color because we didn't even run backward and forgot to point the camera in the right direction.

All the rest of our rodeo pictures are taken from a distance and when the three Brahma bulls tossed their riders and went over the fence at the same corner we were in the grandstand.

Western rodeos are rugged sport. We saw the cowboys who ride with only one hand holding the strap and ride bare back on both horses and bulls. The ambulance is kept handy and many of the participants get hasty falls. Then there were the calf roping contests in which the calf wins on most occasions as the participants have only two throws to catch the animal and must not jerk him off his feet until he is being tied up.

Trick riding and rope twirling are rodeo features which are seen in Ontario but the chuck wagon races are western thrillers. Each wagon has a four horse team with outriders. The contest starts with loading the equipment, doing a figure eight around two barrels and then a race around the track with wagons and riders in a swirl of dust. One race saw a spill of two wagons on the first turn and horses, wagons, drivers and equipment rolling on the track. Fortunately no one was seriously injured.

(Continued on Page Six)

Reading Between The Lines

CITY PEOPLE LACK MANY THINGS THAT ARE PART OF SMALL TOWN LIFE

by Hartley Cole

A recent article in a popular magazine of American origin compared living in a small town with life in a big city. The writer, a Canadian, was all in favor of the small town. He had lived in the city of Toronto until he got his fill of hurry, the resulting tension and attendant confusion.

In his misery he migrated to a real small town not a small city but an honest-to-goodness place where the population didn't exceed the 1,000 mark. His move, he said, was the best thing he ever did, both for himself and his family. He gave many reasons for his new found happiness but the one that struck us as being most pointed was his remark that he had ceased to "exist" and begun to live.

No longer a nonentity, a number, one of tens of thousands wrapped in their own small world, he now realized the boundaries of the universe didn't stop at the city's gates. People were friendly and actually interested in him. He became a personality instead of an automaton, could afford to laugh at the absurdities of city life and refuse to fall for fads that plague the city dweller.

In his enthusiasm for small town life, the writer enumerated advantages that are a part of every day life for the average person in the "sticks." We accept them without any thought and most of us probably don't realize that some people are doing without them.

Simple things like shady streets, knowing your next door neighbor, a speaking acquaintance with the grocer, the butcher, the policeman; these are foreign to the metropolitan resident. He's restricted to a dime-sized back yard, his neighbor doesn't care who he is, and his circle of friends isn't likely to include the neighborhood grocer, butcher or cop. In fact, his dearest friend probably lives 30 minutes by swaying street car, three transfers and a 10 minute walk from him.

The person newly arrived in a city from a small town is at first dismayed by the coldness of his neighbors and the little things that go together to make up the atmosphere of a town. But after a while he accepts the fact and falls into the same pattern. And conformity, that makes a good city resident.

The so-called opportunities of the city for which many people leave the small town are likely to be found right at home now without the crowding, the busting, and noise.

Yes, the city is a good place for a visit. But who wants to live there, especially in this heat?

shortly on the ninth line, between the Queen Elizabeth and the Dundas highway. Planned are facilities for 500 cars with a potential accommodation for 1,000 in future development.

Annexation Hearing
After reading a column and a half on the front page of the *Oakville Trafalgar Journal* on the Ontario annexation hearing, we turned to page seven for the continuation of the story. The only news on the page was the hearing making the story about 115 inches long.

Snakes Across Country
A second big Sarnia-to-Toronto oil pipe line is scheduled to cross Halton county in September. It is expected that the line, a Sun Oil Co. project, will follow the line laid across the country in July 1932 which crossed about five miles south of Milton. The 200 mile long pipe is creeping at a rate of about two miles a day.

Water, Water Everywhere
"Water, water everywhere but not enough to drink" just about described the situation in Milton last week. With plenty of water in the mountain springs, the town was not able to pump enough down for local use. The pump used to fill the reservoir broke down, to make matters worse.

A new pump house and new and larger pump will bring relief from the shortage.

Less Important News
"My wife has just had quinsy." "Gosh! How many have you got now?"

Earliest in History
Oakville will have the earliest ice in its history when the town arena will be open to a Fort Wayne Indiana hockey team for a two weeks' training period, beginning September 28. The arena manager explains that the club is comparable to Ontario Senior A calibre of hockey.

The American team is called the Komets and a hope yet to be explored in Oakville is that the Komets and the Kelton Klippers could clash in an exhibition contest. Could be.

World's First
Halton county residents will get the first look at daylight movies at a new drive-in theatre to be opened

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Acton, Ontario
A FRIENDLY CHURCH
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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th 1933
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School Devotional
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship Subject: What is a Religion?
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship Subject: To Master Self—the Master

Thought for the Week
We are shaped and fashioned by what we love. (Goethe)

BAPTIST CHURCH
ACTON
Dwight L. Patterson Pastor
19 Wilbur St. — Phone 62

Thursday, September 3, 8:30—Prayer and Praise
Friday, September 4, 8:00—BYOP
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th 1933
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School with classes for all ages
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship
7:30 p.m.—Regular evening service

Canada's pulp and paper output exceeds in value her output of wheat and all other grain crops

THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

Back in 1903
From the Issue of the Free Press of Thursday, September 3, 1903

A meeting was held in the Rockwood town hall on the 25th inst for the purpose of organizing a branch of the South Wellington's Women's Institute. Wm. McNamee of Guelph presided at the meeting. At the afternoon meeting an interesting paper was read by Miss Maddock on "First Aid," after which officers were appointed for the Rockwood branch of the Institute. President, Mrs. William Harris; vice president, Mrs. Roy Guild; sec-treas., Mrs. Bone; director, Mrs. James Gray. At the evening session, Miss Miller gave an address on "Buttermaking" and Miss Maddock one on "Foods."

Acton property is now moving freely and a number of changes have been effected. The latest reported to us is the purchase by Robert Agnew, late of the Dominion Hotel, from John Chisholm, of Saginaw, Mich., of the pretty brick residence on Park Ave., which has been occupied by Rev. A. E. Smith B.D. as a Methodist parsonage. Mr. Agnew paid \$1,000. John Harvey has bought the small cottage at the corner of Mill and Frederick Sts., from George Walter. The front will be raised and made a storey and a half and a comfortable addition will be put on to the rear.

The autumn revival of learning spreads over this fair land this month. Upwards of 300 pupils are hard at work in Acton school, and the following excellent staff of teachers have the lists of studies for the term already well in hand: Thomas T. Moore, principal; W. H. Stewart and Miss Molly Dingman in the high school department; and Misses Young, Howes, Holmes and Kennedy in the several departments over which they presided before the vacation.

DIED
ROBINSON—At St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph, on Friday, August 25, 1933, Ernest Edgar Robinson, of Nassagaweya, beloved husband of Florence May Dennis, aged 41 years.

As much wood is used for fuel wood in Canada as is harvested by the pulp and paper mills.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

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The Only Paper Ever Published in Acton

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G. A. Dilla, Editor and Publisher

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