

EDITORIAL

The Wheels Turn Slowly

A recent item in the "Twenty Years Ago" column noted that the Bell Telephone Co. was being pressed for a wider area for the Acton Central and there was some anticipation that Limehouse would be included in the Acton central. Recently it was reported again that the Telephone company was promising consideration of the area serviced in the rural section surrounding Acton.

In the 20 year interval nothing appreciable has been done to extend a wider rural area to Acton subscribers of the Company. We suppose the question has come up several times in the two decades. Courtesy has always been extended to the requests and each new group seems to be impressed with the sincerity that officials give to the requests for a wider rural service for Acton.

Every business man in Acton is fully aware of the handicap that the limited area from Acton in telephone communication has on his field of business. Councils for 20 years and longer and Boards of Trade have had the matter up for discussion and hopeful interviews inevitably are part of the routine.

It is well perhaps that new members on council assail the problem and attempt to gain a telephone area that is justified for Acton as a trading centre. It is perhaps well too that in a large organization new district managers can approach the problem feeling sincerely that some solution will be reached. The only unfortunate part seems to be that newspaper records show that in 20 years nothing has been accomplished to give a reasonable telephone rural area to Acton. Surely that Acton file will soon come in for consideration.

On the Way Out

That hot potato "rent control" which was tossed from the federal to the provincial field will next month be dumped in the municipal lap. In some manner it missed being a problem of county councils. There always was and always will be people who will demand and get exorbitant prices for articles which are in scarce supply. This is true of more fields than the housing problem.

Like all controls even when they are in effect they are difficult to enforce. Up until the war years we heard little of controls. They were needed when manpower and materials were required to win a war. Gradually they have been dropped and most everyone is pleased at the removal of restrictions. The rent control is one of the last to go. There will be cases where landlords will for a time take advantage of removal of restrictions. We don't believe any municipal council can satisfactorily administer a control measure that has been tossed out by both federal and provincial governments. Rent controls might as well go out now as other controls have gone. They have lasted longer than most wartime restrictions.

Canada's Story Worth Telling

For nearly 100 years, Ottawa and London have been the two ends to most official Canadian visits. In recent generations, Washington has become another place where anyone from the Prime Minister to a minor secretary might fairly regularly hang his hat.

Never before, however, has this country's first minister taken the story of Canada to millions of people right around the globe from London to Bahrain to Karachi to Tokyo as Mr. St. Laurent is doing in his world tour.

Canada is respected in world affairs. No one fears us. Most people are our friends. Or at least they don't think poorly of us.

But, The Financial Post asks, how much of the world's goodwill have we won by default? And how much of it is ours to keep?

We will never be a great power in military might, nor do we want to be. We will never push anyone around. There, however, lies our opportunity. Our appeal to the world will have to be through reason and understanding, not through brute strength. By using our brains this land can give leadership to the middle powers among whom we find ourselves the foremost.

That's why Mr. St. Laurent's trip is so important. The head of our Government will have a look at the world. And the world, and particularly Asia, will be reminded that we exist.

An Emergency

Last week we wrote on our Canadian flag without realizing that in 1945 an order-in-council of the government of that time did name the red ensign with the Canadian Arms in the flag of Canada "until Parliament shall declare otherwise." Parliament has not declared otherwise, so Canada has an official flag and it is the red ensign.

Sorry we missed that order-in-Council about the flag. It's quite satisfactory and there really isn't a flag issue any more except for those who would want Parliament to declare otherwise. It was very difficult back in 1945 to keep up with all the orders-in-Council that were passed in the emergencies of those days. It's great to learn that the flag was one of our emergencies back in 1945.

Over a Lunch Hour

Over a lunch the other day we conversed with a friend who is quite a connoisseur of cheese. There are a number of kinds we like ourselves but his range was well beyond those we have sampled. He told us that many of the imported fancy varieties were actually selling in Canada at lower prices than our own Canadian brands. That hardly seemed conceivable but he assured us such was the fact.

Of course, the conversation drifted to other oddities in our marketing problems such as Canadian canned pork being sold in Europe at a lower price than Canadians pay. Butter, wheat and textiles and a great many more oddities of prices came into the conversation. We didn't reach any conclusion on the oddities of prices of commodities except perhaps that once tastes are acquired for imported articles which are more reasonable in price, the home consumption of our good Canadian products loses its market and it is difficult to regain. Maybe we are pricing ourselves out of our own market.

Double or Nothing

Little did Canadians think that when it was noted Members of Parliament and Senate would move for higher salaries that the present salaries would be practically doubled. Our high level of taxation was supposedly to maintain an adequate military strength against any aggressor.

There isn't any taxpayer who wouldn't like his taxes cut in half. And even that would not have the same effect as getting double your present salary. We still maintain there are a lot of hard working Members of Parliament and heads of governments who are not sufficiently paid for the responsibilities they carry. In the House of Commons and Senate there are also many who barely qualify for the present allowances.

For some being a Member of Parliament is very much a part-time job and for such the allowance should be in accord. With proposed salary increases Canada can well do with half the present representatives in both the House of Commons and the Senate. Perhaps the present would be a good time to eliminate the Senate or else make a start on its elimination by making no more appointments to that body. In the meantime it seems to be a waste of public funds to increase the allowance for Senators and the pension allowance for members which has recently been put into effect.

Other Papers Say:

Hanover, Ont. Post: "The sooner the politicians leave the farmers and other industry alone to work out their own problems, the better off the whole nation will be."

The wise man and the one who wants to live longer, advises the Wingham (Ont.) Advance-Times: "finds himself a hobby early in life. A constructive hobby, no matter how childish it may seem, is good insurance against boredom at any time."

Progress has its price, according to the Kitchener-Waterloo Record: "Scientists and inventors have made life easier, but proportionately more hazardous. Most of our machines and gadgets are lying in wait to hurt, maim or kill the instant we become careless."

Reading Between The Lines

WINTER'S ARRIVAL IN WHITE RAISES QUESTION ON BLOWER'S ACTIVITY

by Jim Dilla

Winter came with a type of pent up fury last Wednesday that was a surprise to most of us. Naturally enough the snow fell on the roads and sidewalks necessitating plowing and shovelling.

But one predominant question that seemed to speed through the informal vines of communication was "Where's the snowblower?" I wondered too, so decided to find out. A breakdown on the snow plow had caused a delay in street cleaning. The answer was simple.

Many rather critical comments were directed toward the town crew for not having the snow blower out sooner to clear the downtown section of heavy snow. To make the situation completely clear to those who are often too hasty with their criticisms I attempted to find the complete story.

First of all, let it be known the town crew consists of four men including the town foreman. The heavy snow fell on Wednesday and the natural time for clearing it away was Wednesday evening. The plowing was started then and Thursday was garbage day. It might also be noted that Wednesday is a public skating night when the town crew is expected to take the tickets and flood and clean the ice.

Collecting the garbage takes three men a full day so one man was not occupied on that effort. On top of this there was cemetery work involving digging through frost in at least four instances last week. Extra hours of work were piled up as members of the town crew worked through at least one night and all day Sunday.

Perhaps I could point out that this column is not necessarily a plea for more help on the town crew but it seems only reasonable that citizens who don't know the answers and don't endeavor to find them should adopt a very reasonable attitude toward the functions of public operated groups. It isn't fair to comment from the sidewalk "They should have had the snow blower out," when there may be a good sound reason why it isn't. Think before you criticize, or better still, think while you shovel your sidewalk.

I think the town crew did a good job in a heavy week of activity.



Road Costs Highest

Approving the highest estimate of road expenditures in its history, Halton's neighbor to the north, Wellington County, will this year spend some \$1,013,400 for that purpose. Approximately \$451,000 of this figure will have to be raised by taxation. The county council also noted at its inaugural meeting that sale of Christmas trees netted the county coffers \$1,800.

According to information from Georgetown school board, the Herald reports, at least two and possibly three new classrooms will be needed next fall to cope with rising public school enrollment. With 580 pupils to take care of now in the public schools, there will be an anticipated 700 by 1955.

Hot Radio Report

Item in the Georgetown Herald: Late Monday afternoon, firemen were called to the home of Elmer Stief, Temple Road, when a transformer on the radio started to smoke and threatened to cause a fire. No damage resulted.

A Mean Swindle

A well-dressed man, complete with brief case and suave manner, approached an elderly Burlington couple recently and went at great lengths to explain the dangers of forgery and swindling. At the end of his talk he produced two slips of paper, said they were for audit purposes, had them signed and took his leave. The "slips" turned out to be blank checks which the glib-tongued con-man cashed for \$360. Police are working on the case.

No Rent Controls

Neither Burlington nor Nelson plan to do anything about renewing rent controls which came to an end March 1st. It was the contention of the two councils that rent controls are primarily designed for larger industrial centres.

Sight-Seeers Welcome

Arrangements to provide the interested public with a look at the Ford-Oakville plant have been completed. Starting February 1 tours will take in the plant Monday through Friday at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Special group tours can be arranged, it is learned, and a corps of guides has been marshalled to conduct the visitors.

Water Under the Bridge

Agreeing to let the past be water under the bridge, Oakville and Trafalgar Councils met for the first time in seven months recently and appointed a joint committee to study ways and means of avoiding duplication of services and to determine an equitable sharing of area project costs.

Words From Women

Telling of trouble incurred while keeping motorist-parking meter relations on a legal keel, Oakville policeman Pete Davenish observed: "Men usually don't talk back, but the women... Some of them call me unprintable names and I don't reply in kind." Besides the women who argue and use strong language, Corporal Davenish added, others don't argue but still evade the coin distribution by inserting substitutes.

Dial Phones for Milton

Bell Telephone officials announced last week that dial phones are due in Milton by summer of 1955. Now in the planning stage, an exchange will be constructed to house complex dial switching equipment, new poles will be planted and rearranged and extended wire and cable network will be done.

Name New School

Naming of Milton's new public school as the J. M. Denyes School was confirmed at a meeting of the board last week. Mr. Denyes was for many years Halton County public school inspector and a resident of Milton. Since his retirement Mr. Denyes has lived in Toronto.

Elected Fair President

A popular Acton district farmer whose use of scientific farming methods have attracted wide interest, John E. Moles was named president of Acton Fair at the society's annual meeting. Mr. Moles succeeds Mac Sprowl who was the society's youngest president and recent winner of a Lord Nuffield scholarship.

The worried man appealed to the psychiatrist

"You've got to help me, doctor." All day long I want to eat grapes." "Well, think nothing of that," soothed the doctor. "Everybody eats grapes." "Off the wallpaper?"

AT THE Churches

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, FEBRUARY 7th 1954
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School for all children.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship, Commitment, Loyalty, Sacrifice (Part 2)

7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship, C.G.I.T. service, in the auditorium. Speaker, the Rev. Erle Curry, B.A.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
"Nobody will know what you mean by saying that God is love unless you act it as well."
—L. P. Jackson

BAPTIST CHURCH ACTON
Ray H. Currier, Pastor
Parsonage, 115 Bower Ave.
Phone 206A

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7th 1954
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service

Presiding in Knox Church
Wednesday 4 p.m. Mass. at 8 p.m. prayer meeting followed by their rehearsal.

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7th 1954
9:45 a.m.—Church School
11:00 a.m.—Devotional, W. S. P.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship
8:15 p.m.—Young People's Service
Church Fire-side

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength."
A Warm Welcome Awaits You

ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH (Anglican)
Rev. Ralph E. Price, B.A., B.D. Rector

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
February 7th 1954

10:00 a.m.—Church School
11:00 a.m.—Bible Class
11:00 a.m.—Church Communion
4:15 p.m.—Holy Baptism (by appointment)

7:00 p.m.—Evening Service
8:15 p.m.—Young People's Service
Church Fire-side

Of special interest to the members of the Acton Free Press is the fact that the Epiphany service will be held on Sunday, February 7th, at 11:00 a.m. in the Epiphany service.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER



BACK IN 1904

From the Issue of the Free Press of Thursday, February 4, 1904

It is understood that the minister of education proposed introducing legislation along the lines of free text books for the schools of the Province.

The County Council met at Milton as required by statute. Members all present except Councillors Andrew of Oakville who is ill with erysipelas in the face, and Smith of Burlington, who is away down in the Maritimes looking after the shipment of apples. Arch McGibbon of Nassagaweya nominated J. H. Peacock as warden for 1904. No other nomination being forthcoming, the motion was put and carried by a show of hands, all the members voting aye except Webster, who voted nay.

The annual meeting of the Halton Reform Association was held Monday in Milton. E. H. Cleaver of Burlington was elected president.

A convention for the discussion of "church union" is one of the interesting gatherings mooted to be held in Acton this spring. If proposed arrangements are consummated, the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational churches within convenient distance will be invited to attend.

Acton hockey team went to Brampton Monday evening for the return match with the team of that town. Brampton provided first-class entertainment and among the attractions offered took them through the mammoth rose gardens of the Dale estate. At the green house each player was presented with a box of fine roses, lily of the valley and carnations.

Snow shoeing has become quite popular with a number of our citizens. Numbers of the boys are enjoying fun with the Norwegians' snow travellers' skis.

There were a quarter of a billion paid admissions to Canadian motion picture houses in 1951 about 18 admissions per capita.

BACK IN 1934

From the Issue of the Free Press of Thursday, February 1, 1934

The Midget Hockey League got underway the past week, with two nights' play. They are captained by the same leaders who conducted the contests so successfully last year, Messrs. E. E. Barr, W. D. Talbot, B. Bayless and I. G. King.

Halton County's Provincial Championship Boys' Hockey Team, Harold Pickett, Lloyd Easterbrook and Willard Featherstone, were tendered a complimentary banquet and presented with medals by the county council at the Milton Inn.

At a meeting of a group of young people on Friday the Church Hill Young People's Society was organized. The following officers were elected: honorary president, Rev. G. I. Stephenson, president, Leslie Swackhammer, first vice president, Mary Burgess, second vice president, Howard Graff, fourth vice president, Edna Swackhammer, secretary, Grace Graff, treasurer, Gwen Dublin.

The town hockey league has been having some real contests in the arena, and on Tuesday the Shoe Factory defeated the High School by 9-0, to take undisputed leadership in the league. The Shoes have had some real scoring punch, that gives them the leadership. Maucha has scored 9 goals, Waterhouse 7, Holmes 7, Weaver 3, Buchanan 3, Gibbons 2, Reid 1, Smithurst 1 and Wainwright 1. In one game a bang up game in the net.

Messrs. L. G. King and C. W. Wilson are the delegates from Acton Public Utilities Commission to the hydro convention in Toronto this week.

Fifteen below seemed to be the low point registered locally in the late cold spell.

There were a quarter of a billion paid admissions to Canadian motion picture houses in 1951 about 18 admissions per capita.

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| TRAVELLERS' GUIDE GRAY COACH LINES COACHES LEAVE ACTON Eastbound 6:38 a.m., 8:58 a.m., 11:33 a.m., 2:08 p.m., 5:08 p.m., 6:33 p.m., 8:3 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 Kit chester only. a—Daily except Sunday and holidays b—Saturday, Sunday and holidays | CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS Standard Time Eastbound Daily 6:40 a.m., Daily except Saturdays 9:55 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 10:28 a.m., daily except Saturdays 5:48 a.m., 7:27 p.m., (Georgetown) 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. (Georgetown) Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 1:05 p.m. |

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G. A. Dilla, Editor and Publisher

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