

EDITORIAL

Couple of Days in Ottawa

Spent a couple of days in Ottawa last week at the semi-annual meeting of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association. It was the first time in all our visits to the Canadian capitol that we have travelled in daylight hours. There were two reasons. One was that the train schedule allowed a stop-over in Smiths Falls for Mrs. Dills and the editor to visit with their daughter and son-in-law and grandchildren and the second reason was that we have found that arriving at the Chateau Laurier one is more liable to get a room at 10 o'clock at night than at seven o'clock in the morning.

We have written previously about Ottawa. Our only walk outside the hotel was an early morning trip on which we took colored pictures of the war memorial, the parliament buildings and the hotel. At nine o'clock the sun was in the right direction for all three shots. Mrs. Dills did attend one part of a session of the House of Commons. She reports a session at which not half the seats in the House were occupied but appreciated the debate. Most activity we ever saw around the parliament buildings was a couple of years ago when the first Canadian was made Governor General of Canada.

While most of our business had to deal with the welfare of weekly newspapers and was "shop talk" a visit to Ottawa does allow one to meet and hear from many in official circles and, of course, the directors of the Association come from every province of this vast Dominion.

On and Off the Record

At luncheons and dinners many heads of government departments meet the representatives of over 500 weekly newspapers. On Tuesday at luncheon near us were an official of the Department of National Defense, a senator, the chief election officer and the public relations man of one of the major parties. Perhaps the general public are not aware that the man in charge of public relations for the Liberal party is a Mr. H. E. Kidd and the man in a similar position for the Conservatives is Mr. W. H. Kidd. Perhaps you won't believe it but the one we sat closest to was the Conservative publicity man and he assured us he was no relation and had no connection with the man who directed the promotion of the Liberal party. We didn't meet the right Kidd.

Ottawa is a place where one hears talks that are on the record and off the record. We never heard of a newspaper man repeating or reporting anything that was off the record. But at dinner on Monday evening Hon. John W. Pickersgill, Secretary of State, gave an address that was on the record and which we found interesting. The address was titled "Cabinet Government and Freedom of Information." If any of our readers are desirous of learning about the duties of the Secretary of State and why there is not freedom of information on everything pertaining to government work, we'll be glad to loan a copy of the address.

While Mr. Pickersgill has only been a cabinet minister for nine months he has been associated with government work in Ottawa for 14 years. He was Secretary to the late Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King for many years. We learned from other sources that his ability is recognized by all members of the House even if he isn't just as popular as some in other positions.

Also met on Tuesday evening a couple of weekly editors who are members of parliament, Jack Smith from Richmond Hill and Johnny James from Bowmanville and, of course, what we picked up in such conversations is off the record. They both happen to be Liberals but that is not surprising in a government which has so many Liberals.

Long Time Planning

Among some things that readers might like to know and which come up for attention of Directors of C.W.N.A. are convention arrangements. This year's convention will be held in Toronto. The dates for the convention of 1955 have been set for September 12, 13 and 14 in Vancouver, B.C. and consideration is being given to the place and time for the gathering of 1956 and 1957.

It appears that conventions have to be arranged well ahead if hotel accommodation at one city is to be secured for 300 to 500 people for three

or four days. Dates in July and August for conventions are just not obtainable for large groups in any of the large hotels. Some study is being given to an overseas trip for weekly newspaper editors but like other plans this will have to be made some time ahead of the actual trip. It's some 20 years or more since such an undertaking was made. Not many of the editors making that trip are active today in newspaper weeklies except Senator Rupert Davies who is now editor of the Kingston Whig-Standard. We'll not go further with the ramblings of the editor this week.

Last week's editorials were handled by our assistant editors. We were back home in time to assist on the weekly issues on Wednesday morning and for the rest of the week.

The Other Fellow's Business

We were mildly interested to hear the announcement last week that a jewellery store was selling coffee at much lower prices than the grocery stores in that city and enjoying a real bargain sale rush. We suppose the motive was to get folks into the store and sell jewellery and the coffee price was merely an incentive.

The point that interested us was this present day trend of merchandising which has a tendency to make every retailer a department store in fact. We don't get so much of this in the small towns and we find merchants sticking close to the particular line in which they specialize. We think it is better that way and we like it. We believe that by this specialization in one's business we get better service and everyone has an opportunity to make a living.

If a jewellery store sells coffee as a loss leader of course the grocery store can go in for bargain jewellery. No one would gain and eventually if the trend would go on we would have everyone running some other business and quite a confusion. They can try sticking their noses into the other fellow's business in the cities but we sure hope the confusion doesn't spread to the small towns. The fellows who handle coffee regularly ought to be in the best position to mark the stuff to the best advantage.

Education Week

Sunday marks the beginning of Education Week all across Canada. The purpose of the week is to focus attention on the problems and achievements of education generally. It presents an opportunity for every citizen to inform himself about our educational methods, school buildings and equipment, as well as the day-to-day activities in our schools.

Education has been described as an investment in people. Are our people sufficiently concerned with our educational investment? Next week the opportunity is in your hands to take stock of our assets and liabilities. If our Canadian school system is to turn out responsible, well-educated young people, it is the responsibility of adults to enlarge their knowledge of educational affairs.

As a taxpayer you will be well aware that education now costs more but so does a loaf of bread and a package of cigarettes. Statisticians have this year pointed out that the share of the tax dollar spent on education is no greater now than it was six years ago. Actually the individual Canadian spends about a dime a day on education.

More Canadians go to school now than ever before, as can be seen from the addition of necessary classrooms in this town to handle the increased enrolment. The increasing enrolment is expected to continue for some time which means that about 2,500 classrooms must be added each year.

Education is a restricted field but one that has more recently been opened up to adults through evening classes to study everything from insects to international affairs.

Today, especially, there is much soul-searching on the part of educators on the problem of "fundamentals" of education as opposed to the so-called "frills". This concern is all to the good but how is the interested parent to judge for himself without personal knowledge? Education week provides the opportunity for all to get better acquainted with our teachers and school officials and our educational standards.



Saved From Drowning
A nine-year-old Orton boy, Henry Middlebrook, saved the life of seven-year-old Donald Root last week, the Erin Advocate reports. Donald fell from a bridge into icy waters while playing on the way home from school. Henry crawled along a wire fence spanning the creek and pulled the shivering Donald from the water.

Party Line Hog
Believing some of its readers will find the information interesting, the Erin paper last week reports that a rural telephone party line hog who refuses to give up the line for an emergency call, will be liable to a \$50 fine or 30 days in jail under the terms of the new Telephone Act, introduced in the Ontario Legislature at the recent sessions.

Digging Own Graves?
The editor of the Georgetown Herald is anxious that merchants of that town get together for the common good. "And there's a real need," he argues, "for there is certainly competition for the shopper's dollar with Guelph, Toronto, Hamilton, Kitchener and Brampton so close to our doorstep." He later comments, "A live-wire organization of businessmen might save individual merchants from unwittingly digging their own graves."

Working Their Way In
Burglars, the Burlington Gazette says, broke into a drive-in market last week by placing planks up to an opening in the outside wall at the rear of the store, which had been made for the installation of an exhaust fan, and prying off the boards nailed outside and inside the opening.

Toying With The Idea
Revealing that three Oakville citizens are interested in doing something about the cemetery space shortage, the Record Star says: Recent discussion of our rapidly-filling local cemeteries has stirred the interest of promoters hereabouts and, among others, three local residents admit to having toyed, or more with the idea of setting up commercial burial ground ventures.

A Perturbed Cat
When Human Shelterkeeper Al MacNab arrived at an Oakville home in answer to a rush call, he found the mistress swathed in bandages put on at the hospital. Her torcat had signified a wish to be let out, and when she hadn't complied, the cat scratched her so severely that she had to be patched up at the hospital.

Downtown Parking
Million council, the Champion relates last week voted amendment to the parking by-law on the downtown area. A 15-minute parking limit will prevail in other areas. However, neither regulations will apply on Sundays or holidays.

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 MARCH 7th 1954
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School Not to be despised
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship In-stallation of new elders
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship Hymns on the screen "The Life of Jesus, illustrated."
Next Sunday Joint Service, 7 p.m. United Church, 150th Birthday of the Bible Society. Special speaker Inter-congregational. Fireside Film, Voice of the Deep

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
The best way for a man to train up a child is the way he should go to travel that way himself. Anonymous

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA
KNOX CHURCH, ACTON
REV ROBERT H. ARMSTRONG M.A., B.D., Minister
SUNDAY MARCH 7th, 1954
9:45 a.m.—Church School
11:00 a.m.—Bible Society Anniversary
7:00 p.m.—Daughters of Knox.
A Warm Welcome Awaits You

Contention Tramped Out
Long a source of contention, the Oakville-Trafalgar Journal tells, the sharing of heating and lighting costs of Bronte fire hall between the village and township was settled recently. A 50-50 basis was agreed upon. The hall, owned by the village, houses the fire-fighting equipment of Trafalgar Brigade No. 1, which is available for fighting fires in the village.

Dies in Bronte Crash
Alice Stewart, Bronte, a native of Acton, who has two sisters living near here, was instantly killed last week when the car he was driving crashed into a stationary bus in the village. He had driven to Oakville to pick up his wife and was returning alone after discovering she had come home by bus. His wife and mother-in-law saw the accident from the window of their home.

Moot Artificial Rink
At the annual industrial night dinner in Bronte recently, the Chamber of Commerce for the village and district announced plans to initiate and promote an outdoor artificial rink. Hopes were expressed that other organizations would lend a hand in the project and ultimately form an arena board to handle the follow-up work.

Donations to Laver Fund
Donations are being received for the Laver fund, set up after the fire which claimed three lives and destroyed a home near Hornby, the Champion reports. Contributions will be used toward the construction of a new house and it is expected a canvass will be complete by the week-end.

Poe's Corner

MONEY CAN'T BUY THESE
Money can't buy real friendship—friendship must be earned.
Money can't buy a clear conscience—square dealing is the price tag.
Money can't buy the glow of health—right living is the secret.
Money can't buy happiness—happiness is a mental attitude and one may be as happy in a cottage as in a mansion.
Money can't buy sunsets, songs of wild birds and music of the wind in the trees—these are as free as the air we breathe.
Money can't buy character—character is the result of a constructive philosophy of life.
Money can't buy character—character is what we are when we are alone with ourselves in the dark.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

BACK IN 1934

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, March 1, 1934

More shivering was done in Ontario in the month which ended yesterday than in any February since 1893. The average temperature in Toronto was 10.2 above zero.

Some of the young Crowson Cornetians are pleased to mingle with young Actonians at the Acton Skating arena.
The regular meeting of Haddock's Club was held Friday. George Barnes acted as chairman. The program consisted of readings by Betty Claridge and Ada Sprawl, the special feature of the program being a debate. Resolved, that a man with a home in the city and a two thousand dollar salary is better off than a man with a hundred acre farm and five thousand dollars. The affirmative was upheld by Miss Katherine Beckett and Mr. John Mann; the negative by Mrs. Fred Anthony and Mr. Wm. Moffat. The affirmative won.

The young people of Limehouse United church were addressed by two young speakers from the team of the New Canada movement. Their claim is that politics have proven a failure and as 67 per cent of our people are farmers, that their whole attention should be devoted to them.
No one has reported seeing a robin yet, but several crows have been seen.

Jim Agle of the Brampton Lions Club did his best to coax spring during the cold weather of last week by appearing about town wearing a straw hat and smile. Jim also has the latest Mac West story. If you want to hear it, call him up and see him sometime. Peel Gazette.
The Rockwood Choral Society concert was given at the church of Christ church in Everton Monday.

The Ladies' Aid Society of Ebenezer United church gave a Maggie and Jiggs supper in the church basement last week.

The much below zero weather of the past few weeks failed to chill the ardor of a bachelor friend at the west end of the village of Eden Mills. He won his race with Spring fever and took unto himself a wife.

BACK IN 1904

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, March 3, 1904

The blizzard on Monday rendered the proposed Leap Year Oyster Supper and Lecture an impossibility. Rev. A. J. Snyder, the proposed speaker, was in the stalled train at Rockwood. He and the other passengers were forced to remain there all night and he delivered his lecture, "A Woman's Tongue" to them.

A meeting was held in Stewart town last week to consider the best means to be adopted to improve the township roads. Mr. A. W. Campbell, commissioner of highways, showed that the township had spent \$60,000 on roads during the last 10 years and asked what they had to show for it? Just mud not one mile of permanent road, just permanent culverts.

The report of the Postmaster General for the year ending June 30, 1903, has just been received. Through its pages it is shown that the postal revenues of Acton Post Office have increased to \$2,221.19. The money orders issued numbered 951. The remunerations received by the postmaster were as follows: salary \$700, rent, light and fuel \$100; forward allowance \$10, commissions of money orders, postal notes, etc \$31.57.

The GTR blockade between Rockwood and Guelph last Thursday increased Acton's population by several hundred. Railway authorities sent the passengers of the morning train to the hotels for dinner. With the aid of nine engines, a snow plow and a large gang of section men the train was released and traffic began to move again east and west.

The young bachelors of Acton announce an assembly in the town hall. Their first three-quarter time cheques were cashed by the Acton Tanning Co's employees last Friday night. They were not much enthused over them, but realizing that three quarters of a loaf is better than no bread, they are endeavoring to be contented with the temporary arrangement.

March certainly came in very hot like the rains preceding into February for several hours.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

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DR. W. G. C. KENNEY
Physician and Surgeon
Office in Symon Block,
43A Mill St. E., Acton
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Residence 115 Church St. E.
Phone 159
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Physician and Surgeon
Corner of Willow and River Sts.
Entrance River Street
Acton, Ontario
Phone 228

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X-RAY
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Triangle 7-3351
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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., 8:33 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., 11:2 a.m. (Sun. to Kitchener only)
a—Daily except Sunday and holidays
b—Saturday, Sunday and holidays

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS
Standard Time
Eastbound
Daily 5:40 a.m.; Daily except Sundays 9:55 a.m.; 7:10 p.m.; Sunday days 8:16 p.m.; Daily except Sunday Flyer at Georgetown 8:02 a.m.; Daily Flyer at Georgetown, 10:11 p.m.
Westbound
Daily 1:28 a.m.; daily except Sunday 8:48 a.m.; 6:50 p.m. (flagstop); 7:44 p.m.; Daily except Saturday and Sunday 8:10 p.m.; Saturday only 2:30 p.m.; Sunday only 9:45 a.m. (flagstop); Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 7:05 p.m.

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