

EDITORIAL

The Answers

Last week there was published and made available to all ratepayers of Acton copies of the auditor's report on the finances of our town. We admit that figures are sometimes confusing and difficult to grasp but we do think that anyone who spends a couple of hours studying the finances of his or her town would be a better and more understanding citizen of the community.

In these days of easy financing of everything from the kitchen cupboard to the automobile or television set it may not be interesting for folks to learn how much money they owe as ratepayers of Acton or how many years it will take to pay it. But such information might be helpful to understanding why councils and boards cannot give all the improvements we may seek. If you are not interested in such figures the folks who lend the funds are and they study auditors' reports very thoroughly.

How much does education cost? How much does police and fire protection cost? What services you get for your tax dollar and how little council has jurisdiction over may surprise you in the answers which turn up in your auditor's report.

Municipal elections are not far distant. If you want answers to your municipal affairs the auditor's report is a good start. We have read it and we found it very satisfying. Maybe you will disagree but give it careful study before you come to hasty conclusions. In a few months, councils and boards will require men who will govern these finances for 1955. The report of 1953 will be found an excellent text book.

Go to the Busy Man

If you want to get a favor done by some obliging friend and want a promise safe and sure, on which you can depend, don't go to him who always has much leisure time to plan; but if you want your favor done—ask the busy man.

The man who is sure never has a moment he can spare. He is always putting off until his friends are in despair. But he whose every waking hour is crowded full of work, forgets the art of wasting time—he cannot stop to think.

So when you want a favor done and want it right away, go to the man who constantly works 12 hours a day. He has a moment sure, somewhere that has no other use, and help you, while the idle man is framing an excuse.

Getting Acquainted

The editor and members of the staff had a lot of enjoyment from our exhibit at the fair. This year is not our first and we expect to be back again. While many people visit our office and we do a big variety of printing, not so many are acquainted with all the services the Free Press provides. It was for this reason that we collected samples of printing and displayed other items at the Fair. We were delighted with the interest shown in our work and the exhibit. So many people expressed surprise that such a wide service was available right here in Acton.

We believe in the time we spent in our exhibit we met more folks than we did in our excursions through the grounds. It was a grand meeting place and, of course, backed up by samples of printing we were in much more familiar surroundings than among the exhibits of livestock and products of the farm. We must admit that we never, even in our boyhood, had any experience on the farm. Our nearest approach was driving half a dozen cows to and from pasture to town four times a day. We prefer the present day method of putting the milk bottle out to those boyhood experiences of getting our supply of milk. But it gave us a lot more understanding for those who are the source of supply and a keen desire to meet and exhibit with town and rural folk on such an occasion as a fall fair.

Yes, we found the fall fair is a very fine place not only for personal contact but for acquainting a lot of folks with what is being done in town and country. Incidentally, over 800 people filled in coupons with their name and address and paused at our exhibit.

Afraid to Move

When we read of the difficulties and obstacles which were encountered and overcome by the early settlers of this country we wonder what would have happened if they had the restrictions of today added to their difficulties. When those early pioneers found a grist or saw mill necessary, no permission was needed to flood a section of land to get the water power necessary.

When the settler wanted to build a shelter for his family and stock there were no building restrictions. When the need for a school house or church arose, there were no entanglements except a willingness to labor in its construction and the joy of service to his fellowman.

Certainly mistakes were made but the fact remains that upon those mistakes the land was settled and the country grew. We are making a strenuous effort today to profit from those errors of other years. We are still making errors. We sometimes wonder, however, if in our eagerness and smugness of perfection planning we are not stifling the incentive of our people to get things done.

Starting in business 15 years ago was not a big detailed problem. Governing a town 15 years ago allowed something for the elected officers to work out without much consultation with a higher government source and fees at every turn. Even owning a home was a simple transaction between you and the holder of the mortgage.

It is admitted that with all our planning, mistakes today are just as numerous as the ones we attempt to rectify of earlier years. The question is: "Are we hindering our progress in our present restrictive measures in every field of endeavor? Too often we find a lack of men willing to run for municipal office because they feel they are merely a rubber stamp for some higher authority. Very often we find a man discouraged from starting a small industry of his own because he has so many demands in legal requirements, tax commitments and demands of labor and other groups.

We are not condemning any measures for improvement, but we wonder if we are not strangling that urge the early pioneers had when they came to this country. We sometimes wonder if there is not a surplus of planners and a dearth of doers.

What's the Use of Worrying?

When good hardwood was the favorite fuel for heating our homes there was much concern over the diminishing supply. Later when coal was found more satisfactory to drive the chill from Canadian winters it was a favorite topic of statisticians to estimate how many years would elapse before our supply of coal was exhausted. These two topics are not subjects for discussion any longer.

The noise of coal rattling down the chutes and filling the bins is not so common in the homes. We are talking in terms of new fuel supplies. The oil trucks now call at the homes day or night to replenish the fuel supply. The supply is not dependent on rail and truck or water routes but comes by pipe from its distant sources. Another pipe line will soon bring natural gas from the fields afar to the markets. We don't think in terms of steam power to drive our machines but have been using electric power in greater quantity for years.

We do hope no one starts worrying too much about our present heat sources. Undoubtedly, before they are exhausted man's ingenuity will have found better ways of coping with our heating problems which after all diminish rather than multiply.

Other Papers Say:

In immigration benefits, thinks the Regina Leader-Post, "perhaps the western farmer has the biggest stake of all. His worries would be fewer today had he more mouths to feed in Canada. He would not then be as dependent upon the uncertainties of world markets in competition with other producers."

Reading Between The Lines

SOME STROKES TO CUT AMERICAN INSULATION IGNORANCE OF CANADA

By John Black

Just about every adult Canadian has his own store of stories of personal exposures to American misconceptions about our country. Some of them are absolutely fantastic, others are mildly preposterous, a few shockingly hilarious, some actually dangerous and still others—these by far the majority—downright silly.

Whatever the substance of these misconceptions runs to, over them all Canadians humanly apply a coat of annoyance, usually polite and sometimes pointed, and try to set their American friends on the right track.

I've no intention of posing as a raconteur of these American foibles 'n fallacies. Readers have heard the popular examples repeatedly and the peculiar ones personally and, like deceptively good jokes, their insistent repetitions for the sake of illustration becomes tiresome.

What can be done on an effectively national level, to leave the average American with the knowledge that Canada and its inhabitants are not existent at the pleasure of the Queen; to let our south-of-the-border neighbors know they can't ski in Muskoka in August, they won't find wigwams on Yonge Street, they won't have to answer to the British Privy Council if they commit a legal infraction while visiting us, and et cetera and et cetera and so on.

It will be a faraway and haphazard process of enlightenment if

we wait until Americans' lack of information on Canada, Canadians and Canadiana is supplanted with planned knowledge by educational or political vehicles in the United States.

These two mentioned social channels are much too turbulent in that country refilling the overflowing reservoir of popular opinion with persuasion that America is the greatest, the biggest, the strongest and, as is said, the mostest.

So it's a job for Canadians alone, as it naturally should be.

Concerned groups in this country have already taken the initiative with facilities and opportunities at their disposal. This is a general statement, but such organizations as the Canadian Club, the Canadian Authors' Association, student exchange boards and other groups, by way of select distribution of pamphlets, speeches and forums over the border, are making a cut into the insulation of ignorance worn by herds of Americans on matters Canadian. Even the CBC has taken a tactful whack at it.

The rebuttals that come in living rooms, at tourist resorts, and other informal meeting places of the two countries' citizens can be effective if handled with enough conviction on Canadians' part to persuade the corrected American to, in turn, correct his fellows in kind. One man tells another is still a pretty highly-rated means of advertising.



Boys Will Be Boys
In Oakville some small boys have been up to little good, judging by the complaints of the fire chief who with his brigade was called to a false alarm, then to a fire in a tree house. As reports go, it was noted when firemen arrived in both instances not a child under 20 was found around, but there was plenty of evidence they had been.

Youthful Explorers
In Georgetown last week two small boys wandered off into a bush area near town and caused quite a hue and cry before they came out again. Firemen were called in the search and some time later the lads were found, deep in the bush near an old reservoir.

Cost of Fun is High
In Burlington cost of fun and relaxation is apparently proving too burdensome for the town taxpayers by themselves, so the Recreation Commission reported to council recently, with Nelson township residents using the facilities freely. In view of this, the township is to be asked to contribute a share in costs.

Bowled by Bowling Pin
In Oakville last week a youngster knew his head was on top of his shoulders in a rather painful form of awareness after he was taken to hospital, the victim of a bowling pin. The lad was sitting above the alley pit waiting for a frame to finish when a pin bounced up and off the pinsetter's cranium.

Petition for Water
In Erin, where there's been some question of condition of water in wells scattered over the community, the local paper informs its readers that "We are informed that petitions have been circulated in various sections of the village which will be presented to council asking for the installation of a waterworks system."

Police Dispute Ends
In Georgetown last week the dispute ended in council on whether or not provincial police would stay or go, but although the provincials won, it was not with unanimity but with emphatic terms of objection from the reeve and one councillor. Lack of control by council proved to be an argument for both the pros and cons in the disagreement.

Quite a Demand
In Burlington, three owners of small water craft took a chance on leaving the boats with motors sitting in the water behind the seawall overnight, lost the chance and all three outboard motors to thieves. Warned police: outboard motors shouldn't be left on boats as there is a demand for them.

Growth and Garbage
In Milton the ratepayer's money, some \$15,000 of it, was at stake as council last week seriously considered engaging a firm of town planners (for \$3,000 per annum) to take care of swelling growth and buying a machine (\$15,000) to take care of growing garbage mounds.

"Whoever Will May Come"
In Milton a coincidence worthy of mention occurred at the opening last week of the town's new municipal rest room: as civic dignitaries concluded the brief ceremony, the Salvation Army band across the street, unaware of the nature of the gathering, opened their program of music with the hymn: "Whoever will may come."

OBITUARY

Mrs. N. McPhail Interred Saturday

Funeral service was held on Saturday, September 18 for the late Nellie McPhail, who passed away at her home in Campbellville on Wednesday, September 15. She has been ill only a short time, and was in her 75th year. Mrs. McPhail was born in Ayrshire, England. Her husband, Peter McPhail, predeceased her. Remaining are two sons, John R. Campbellville; Neil H. Milton, and a daughter, Jelena (Mrs. Cooke), St. Catharines; six grandchildren; two brothers, William, Saskatoon; George, Perth, Australia; sisters, Janet (Mrs. Devlin), Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan; Margaret (Mrs. Novesey), Spy Hill, Saskatchewan; Jean (Mrs. Lyons), Benito, Manitoba; Elizabeth, Campbellville.

She was a member of St. David's Presbyterian church, Campbellville. Rev. James Sutherland conducted the funeral, which was followed by interment in Campbellville cemetery.

AT THE Churches

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA
KNOX CHURCH, ACTON
Rev. ROBERT H. ARMSTRONG
M.A., B.D., Minister
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3rd, 1954
11:00 a.m.—Morning Service.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship.

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10:00 a.m.—Sunday School. We count on you to help us.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship, world-wide Communion Sunday.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship.

Thought for the Week
"More hearts pine away in secret anguish for unkindness from those who should be their comforters than for any other calamity in life."
Edward Young.

ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH (Anglican)
Rev. Evan H. Jones, B.A., L.Th., Rector

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3rd, 1954
10:00 a.m.—Church School.
11:00 a.m.—Beginners' Class.
11:00 a.m.—Choral Communion.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service.
Visitors Very Welcome

BAPTIST CHURCH ACTON
Ray H. Costerus, Pastor
Parsonage, 115 Bower Ave.
Phone 206W

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3rd, 1954
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship.
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Prayer meeting; 9 p.m.—Choir practice.
Thursday, 8 p.m.—Young People's.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

BACK IN 1904

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, September 23, 1904.

The latest idea in the penny-in-the-slot machines will be seen at Acton fair this year, in the shape of a machine selling "June Clover", the newest perfume. Simply drop a penny in the slot, hold your handkerchief under the cow's tongue and pull her horns—you have your handkerchief perfumed with the very latest odor.

Messrs. C. F. Goodve and Co., who are among our liveliest merchants, have put in a National cash register of the latest type. Their growing business necessitated this convenience.

Mr. J. R. Anderson, blacksmith, is having the electric light installed in his shop.

The extensive alterations, enlargements and improvements at the Beardmore and Co. and Acton Tanning Co. are being pushed forward. For two months the interior of the sole leather tannery has been undergoing alterations. A new 100 h.p. motor is being added. It is said that upwards of \$50,000 is being expended.

A couple of rinks of the members of Acton Bowling Club took a trip to Orangeville on Tuesday to have a game with the bowlers there. Two games were played by each rink, but although excellent bowling was done by both rinks, it seemed impossible for our players to overcome the peculiar character of the green, it being seventeen inches higher at the south than at the north end. Acton bowlers were A. M. Smith, H. P. Moore, A. E. Nicklin, I. Francis, A. J. Lehman, H. H. Worden, A. J. McKinnon, A. H. Devitt.

The rally day service and quarterly review in the Methodist church Sunday school was largely attended. The address by Dr. Ault was much appreciated.

BACK IN 1934

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, September 27, 1934.

The service at the United church on Sunday morning was in charge of the Young Peoples' Society. Professor McLean of the O.A.C., Guelph, was the speaker. Miss K. Savage, president of the League, Miss Velma Blair and Rev. C. L. Poole also took part.

Col. George Drew and Capt. Eddie Baker, two speakers well-known throughout the province and beyond, are to address an Acton audience in October. This event is sponsored by the Duke of Devonshire chapter and Lakeside chapter I.O.O.F. Col. Drew's subject will be "Britain Leads Again."

Mr. George R. Poole has received word this week of his success in securing his Bachelor of Arts degree with honors. George has been a student at Queen's University.

Mary Young won the girls' championship in tennis and was presented with a silver cup donated by Mrs. Eric Smith. Donald Ryder won the single for boys and was presented with the prize donated by W. K. Graham.

The officers for the Young Peoples group of the United church were as follows: President Mr. J. J. Stewart, 1st vice pres. Miss Laura Johnston, 2nd vice pres. Miss Elva Johnston, 3rd vice pres. Miss Margaret Arnold, 4th vice pres. Mr. Gen. R. Poole, 5th vice pres. Mr. Albert Mills, 6th vice pres. Miss Marjorie Gibson, Sec. Mr. John Nicol, Treas. Mr. Thos. Nicol, Pianist Miss Velma Blair.

Some of those winning prizes at the Lamehouse School Fair were: Elmer Burt, Elva Ritchie, Bruce Lindsay, Ellwood Snow, Betty Burkholder, Willie Ritchie, Jack Noble, Bill Given, Wilfred Johnston, Edna Fryer, Jimmie Stark, Mabel Burkholder, Vera Webster, Newton Ruddlell, Alex. Wright, Shirley Wright, Queenie Holden, and Isabel Stephenson.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

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Saturday from 9 a.m.
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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., 3:08 p.m., 6:33 p.m., 8:3 p.m., 10:13 p.m.
Westbound
10:27 a.m., 12:32 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 KJ. chener 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 Sundays 10:00 a.m., 7:13 p.m.; Sunday only 8:01 p.m.; Daily except Sunday Flyer at Georgetown 9:02 a.m., 6:37 p.m.; Daily Flyer at Georgetown 10:11 p.m.
Westbound
Daily except Sun. and Mon. 1:28 a.m. Sun. and Mon. only 12:28 p.m.; Daily except Sunday 8:48 a.m.; 6:55 p.m. (flagstop); 7:49 p.m.; Saturday only 2:27 p.m.; Sunday only 9:43 a.m. (flagstop); Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 7:05 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. Flyer at Guelph 6:36 p.m.

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DR. H. LEIB
Dental Surgeon
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