

EDITORIAL

Old and New

One thing we like about anniversaries and year-ends is the opportunity it affords to express appreciation for all the fine things that have come our way during the year. So as 1954 draws to a close we like to think back on the friendships that have been found and all the things that have made the 12 months good ones in our community.

We like to say thank you to all those who have contributed in any way to make the Free Press a mirror of the activities of Acton and district. A home town newspaper has many who contribute to its success in keeping an historical record week by week. To enumerate them is dangerous but to all of them our sincere appreciation for their helpfulness in the past year.

For 1955 may health and an abundance of all the good things of life be yours. For the year ahead we ask only the continued pleasure of working side by side with the town and district in making Acton a better place in which to live and work. For nearly 80 years editors of the Free Press have striven with that as their aim. Working co-operatively the years ahead will be as full as the years past.

The Week Between

This week between Christmas and the New Year is invariably a dull one from a newspaper man's point of view. Most folks are recovering from Christmas and business has not taken on its revival in the New Year. Meetings and the usual sources of news of any community get into a routine after the New Year opens but this week is just the week between.

It's the week which is often popular for stock taking either in business or in the home. It's the week we always clear our desk and make a fresh start for the year ahead. If New Year resolutions are still being made it's the week in which they are formulated. You have 52 weeks in which to either forget them or carry them into being. It's quite a week for contemplation and reviewing the past or peering into the future. Sandwiched in between two holidays and with both of them coming on the week-end this year, it's a full week for those who have a holiday at home or away.

One can in this week in between even get an opportunity for more leisurely perusal of the holiday greetings that have come the weeks previous. One can also get time to fully appreciate gifts that have been bestowed. It may be a week lacking in news but it can be a great week - this week in between.

Better For All

That slogan of doing your Christmas shopping early has really caught on. Many of us can recall when much of it was done on Christmas eve. Merchants closed their shops about midnight and went home hoping that Christmas morning could be postponed until they caught up on the extra hours put in.

It has gradually been improving and this year saw many of the stores closed in the early evening and no rush and crowd in the ones that kept open to accommodate late shoppers. Yes, Christmas was very different this year from what is recalled even a few years ago.

The trend can be credited to shorter hours in industry. More time to shop early in the week and the realization that those in the retail trade should have consideration on working hours as well as those employed in industry. The change is for the better and requires only the co-operation of all to maintain reasonable working hours for those in the retail trade.

Other Papers Say:

There's no use pretending to be other than Canadians, thinks the Vancouver Sun. "But let's be our best selves. Good food, courteous treatment. Good roads - don't let us forget them - and reasonable prices. These are things we can offer our friends across the border without trying. And they should prove our best advertisement if we only knew it."

'You' and 'They'

From time to time we hear questions asked. Why haven't we artificial ice? Why can't we have a hospital? Why can't the swimming pool project be completed? The answer is quite simple. We can in Acton have all of them or any one of them if enough citizens want to undertake the task and enough citizens want to contribute the money for them.

Just ask yourself when you are prone to ask why "they" don't do these things how much will "your" contribution be, both in money and in time to work and convince your fellow citizens that the job should be done.

The easy way, of course, is to simply agitate for a vote on any question and raise the funds required by taxation and put the job on council's already overburdened shoulders. But it is not the fairest way by any means. Why should folks past middle age be interested in artificial ice or swimming pools? Of course, young people are not so vitally interested in hospitals either as are older folks. Loading more work on councils and boards is also a good way to make it harder for men and women to take office.

The building or adding of any of these desired things for Acton does not, of course, end when the project is ready for use. There is always maintenance and funds required. Very few artificial ice rinks are being maintained from revenue derived from their operations. Very few hospitals are operating with a surplus and they require the constant attention of busy committees or boards.

Every one of the projects mentioned and more we could enumerate would be beneficial to Acton and district. We can if we so desire have any one or all of them. It requires only the willingness of workers and the co-operation and money of all citizens to give the community the things it wants most.

To raise a fund of \$30,000 only requires 300 subscriptions of \$100 each but if the donations are of \$10 each it requires 3000 to make the grade. We are not advocating for or against any of the proposals for Acton but let's be realistic and inquisitive of ourselves before we ask these questions of others or bemoan the fact that we haven't these things in Acton.

Certificate of Qualification

There have been many proposals put forward to get out the vote on election day. We like the one they tell about in Scarborough. If it doesn't get the vote out it will at least curb citizens who don't vote on beefing about municipal affairs. It is quite simple.

Every person who goes to the polls and marks his ballot, is given a certificate which states that he has done so. When a member of the administration faces an irate citizen, fuming about what the council or the school board has done, he asks the citizen whether he voted or not, before he gives an answer. The person who does not possess a voting certificate is apt to forget all about his "beef." In addition he probably will see that he has a certificate next year.

It's quite all right to beef about municipal affairs but we quite agree that only a duly qualified and certified citizen should have that privilege in any community.

Other Papers Say:

If you don't go forward you are liable to go back, warns the Wingham (Ont.) Advance Times. "There's nothing like the infusion of some new industrial blood to make a town prosperous."

There's much education to be acquired outside the classroom, points out the Western Producer (Saskatoon). The old apprenticeship system did and still can provide many young people whose compulsory attendance at school is often a waste of time, and worse, with the kind of education the, most need and which will do them and the community the most good.



FOLLOWING THE ST. LAWRENCE River to Montreal, the first of 22 TCA Viscount approaches Dorval Airport December 12. Soon to be introduced to the air lanes of North America by ICA, the Viscount has four Rolls-Royce Dart engines and is the first commercial passenger plane to be powered by propeller-turbines since they were introduced to the field of aircraft propulsion.

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

Drama and Mystery

In Burlington, at a meeting described as packed with drama and mystery, some 300 citizens gathered at a pre-Christmas meeting to demand action and a formal inquiry into the vague dismissal of Ted Lambert recreation director, under charges of incompetence and non-co-operation. Not a member of council or the recreation committee was at the meeting.

Erin Turns on Water

In Erin last week the village passed another landmark in its history when the reeve and four councilmen turned a set of valves to send water rushing through the recently-installed conduits of the community's new waterworks system. The ceremony marked the completion of the first phase of the work which will eventually cost the ratepayers some \$75,000.

Takes It In Stride

In Bronte last week Arthur Ribble a venerable 82, was crossing Triller Street when he was struck by a car and tossed about 30 feet. Taken to hospital in Toronto with a broken leg, the elderly gent was soon sitting up and smoking a pipe to belie fears that combination of age and shock would prove too much for the 82-year-old. No charge was laid against the driver of the car.

Garbage Unit Popular

In Milton land fill garbage disposal machines are popular there too. At last week's council meeting members authorized purchase of the unit in a by-law. Of the three towns whose representatives discussed the idea at a North Hutton Urban Board session some time ago, Acton is the only municipality that is without a machine of this type.

Bells in the Classroom

In Oakville high school girls tried out another frivolous fad and after providing the boys with some amusement for awhile suffered a veto from higher authority. The fad: tinkling little bells fastened to skirts, under skirts, on stockings, sweaters in hair, etc. Result: distracting noises in halls and classrooms, not to mention distracted boys.

The Last and Longest

In Milton, at the last and longest session of the year, council members faced a barrage of engineers, lawyers and delegations over two contentious problems. Two requests caused it all: installation of a water main in a southern development and re-statement of building permits to a construction firm on another housing development.

Water Rates Seen Up

In Georgetown a hike in 1955 water rates is authoritatively forecast as well as a change in billing periods. Henceforth, water users will be billed every three months instead of twice yearly. In a review of the town's rates, it was expressed that Georgetown domestic users pay less than those in Milton or Acton. Consideration was also given a flat rate system.

Spill in Labor Ranks

In Oakville, represented by only 350 members, the U.A.W. local for Oakville - Ford employees voted last week to stay out on strike until the company met its demands for a provincial collective bargaining agreement and for certain health, welfare and monetary benefits. Of that number 35 rose to speak against the motion. Some attempt was made to explain that the much sought-for provincial agreement was not a "blanket contract."

Special Department

In Georgetown the municipal \$11,600 landfill machine, a new kind of garbage disposal unit, arrived last week and is expected to be put into operation early in the new year. To operate the machine the town will require the services of another employee. Council spent some time arguing about whether the new employee should be classed as town work or a special department; the latter won out.

WIERD EXPERIENCE

The Saturday Review reports the weird experience of Robert Cousins, Book Editor for Croft Publications in New London, Conn. Wishing to call Dale Carnegie in New York, Cousins combed his file and found the number on an old letterhead. The operator who handled his call announced that Mr. C. Cousins care to speak to Mrs. Carnegie? Cousins said he would. After the usual pleasantries, Mrs. Carnegie asked, "How on earth did you ever track me down here?" Cousins told her about the old letterhead. "Well," said Mrs. Carnegie, "Boulevard 8-2130 was our number, all right, but we discontinued it nine year ago. It was later taken over by a beauty shop in Forest Hills - and that's where I'm having my hair washed right now."

Since the end of the war British Columbia's factory output has increased in value by more than 100 per cent.

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 80
Miss O. M. Lampard, A.T.C.M., Organist and Choir Leader

SUNDAY JANUARY 2nd 1955
10:00 a.m. - Sunday School. Teachers: "I should like to say he should depart from it."
11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
7:00 p.m. - Evening Worship
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
Beyond the dim unknown
Standeth God within the shadows
Keeping watch above His saints
— James Russell, L.S. 1st
A Happy New Year to All

ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH
(Anglican)
Rev. Evan H. Jones, B.A., L.T., Rector

SUNDAY JANUARY 2nd 1955
10:00 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Beginners' Class
11:00 a.m. - Choral Communion
7:00 p.m. - Evensong and Sermon

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

Friday 8 p.m. - Preparatory Service
9:45 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - The Lord's Supper
7:00 p.m. - Evening Worship
They that wait in the land shall renew their strength
A Warm Welcome Awaits You

BAPTIST CHURCH
ACTON
Rev. H. C. ...
SUNDAY JANUARY 2nd 1955
10:00 a.m. - Sunday School
11:00 a.m. - Morning Service
7:00 p.m. - Evening Worship
8:15 p.m. - BY P.U.
Wednesday - 4:00 - Mission Bazaar
8:00 - Prayer meeting

THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

BACK IN 1934 From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, December 27, 1934
BACK IN 1904 From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, December 29, 1904

An important link was added recently to the coast-to-coast network of the Canadian Broadcasting Commission when Manitoba's station at Winnipeg came "on the air." This marks a distinct step forward in the act of broadcasting.

The Christmas mails at Acton post office were heavy again this year but postmaster Matthews and his staff came smilingly through the deluge. The Christmas card mailing was a record-breaker from this office. On one mail going out of town there was a bag and a half of cards, to say nothing of the cards and mail for local delivery. The heaviest mail was on Monday morning when it took seven over two hours to sort and deliver this one mail.

Workmen commenced last week in dismantling the electric line of the Toronto Suburban Railway which ran from Toronto to Guelph. The line ceased to operate in 1932 and since that time the property has required oversight to prevent theft of wire, etc.

Wars and rumours of war continue in spite of all the peace regulations and conferences.

The new sleighs and skis came into immediate use. Yesterday's blizzard was almost typical of February.

The arrangements of the annual high school "At Home" this year were delightfully different from other years. Program numbers were interspersed with dancing. The carpenters started this week in putting the finishing touches on the Public Utilities Office and it is expected that the quarters will be ready for occupancy within a couple of weeks.

In a recent list of honors conferred upon lawyers throughout the province, there were two in Halton county upon whom were conferred the honor of King's Counsel. They are Crown Attorney W. J. Dick of Milton and Mr. LeRoy Dale of Georgetown who will hereafter be entitled to use the initials K.C. after their names.

The Curling Club officially opened the season last night, although several enthusiasts have been playing practice games previously.

When the nomination proceedings were concluded on Monday it was found the only contest was for the reevehip. Reeve Swackhamer has decided to run for a third year, which is unprecedented in the annals of Acton's municipal history. George Hynds was also nominated. The nominations at noon on Monday were better attended than usual. The hour for receiving nominations closed at one o'clock and since Christmas dinners were waiting many it was decided to adjourn until three o'clock. At that hour there was a fair attendance. Some of the speeches were spicy.

The councillors are Jim Warren, James Lackey, James Wilson and Wm. White.

The numerous friends of Miss Minnie Bennett of Acton, who is the teacher at the 10th line school of Georgetown, assembled at the home of Mr. Chas. Sturatt Friday where all enjoyed a delicious oyster supper.

The Christmas examinations at the public school last Thursday were of an interesting character, and were largely attended by parents and friends.

The young ladies of Acton High School and their adherents have been very energetic the past month providing entertainments for themselves and others. On Thursday evening they swept through town on a hay rack, picking up and carrying off with warlike vim a number of young men into the country. But the steeds balked. The girls piled out like frightened doves. As the persuasive whip was applied their tender and loving natures revolted. "Don't whip them so," was the feminine cry. When town was regained a very appetizing oyster supper was enjoyed at the home of Miss Ida Laird.

The Christmas ice storm and rain replenished the cisterns but it rendered pedal locomotion somewhat dangerous and played havoc with trees, telephone and electric light lines.

For many years the feature of Christmas merriment in Acton has been the Sunday school entertainment in the Methodist church. A large and delighted audience enjoyed the program on Monday.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

MEDICAL	LEGAL
DR. W. G. C. KENNEY Physician and Surgeon Office in Symon Block, 43A Mill St. E., Acton Office Phone 76 Residence 115 Church St. E. Phone 154	C. F. LEATHERLAND Barrier & Solicitor, Notary Public Office Hours: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Saturdays by appointment only. Office 22 - Phone - Res. 151 ACTON
DR. D. A. GARRETT Physician and Surgeon Corner of Willow and River Sts Entrance River Street Acton, Ontario Phone 238	LEVER & HOSKIN Chartered Accountants Successors to JENKINS AND HARDY 1305 Metropolitan Bldg. 44 Victoria St., Toronto Em. 4-9131
DR. A. J. BUCHANAN Dental Surgeon Office - Leishman Block, Mill St. Office Hours - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. X-RAY TELEPHONE 148	GERALD A. CANDLER Chartered Accountant Monday to Friday 7-9 p.m. Saturday from 9 a.m. 27 Acton Blvd Phone 561, Acton
DR. H. LEIB Dental Surgeon Office - Corner Mill and Frederick Streets Office Hours - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. TELEPHONE 19 - ACTON	VETERINARY F. G. OAKES, B.V.Sc. Veterinarian Office and Residence - 24 Knox Ave., Acton - Phone 130
MISCELLANEOUS RUMLEY FUNERAL HOME Heated Ambulance Phone 688 night of day Serving the community for 46 years	B. D. YOUNG, B.V.Sc. C. L. YOUNG, D.V.M. Veterinary Surgeons Office, Brookville, Ontario Phone - Milton 18521
TRAVELLERS' GUIDE GRAY COACH LINES COACHES LEAVE ACTON Eastbound 8:38 a.m., 8:58 a.m., 11:33 a.m. 2:08 p.m., 5:08 p.m., 6:33 p.m., 8 p.m., 10:13 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 Kitchener only. Daily except Sunday and holidays Saturday, Sunday and holidays	REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE F. L. WRIGHT 20 W. 13th St., Acton, Ontario Phone 95 Appraiser, Real Estate and Insurance W. R. BRACKEN Real Estate Insurance Phone 26 Last your farms, business or home with us. We invite you to use our facilities in securing a purchase for your property. E. H. Ashman Phone M. 100 146-42 R. R. I. Campbellville Salesman R. F. BEAN LIMITED Real Estate and Insurance 89 Mill St., ACTON Phone 585 R. H. ELLIOTT Real Estate Insurance 76 Bower Avenue Phone 6 Representing G. W. Goldsaw, Broker Milton, Phone 349 Complete Real Estate Service Covering Halton County Use Our Facilities

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