

EDITORIAL

In 1955?

There have been so many years and so many different methods of calendar reform under consideration that it came as rather a shock to us to note that such a thing may actually come to pass either in this year or possibly five years hence. It seems that agreement is nearer fulfillment than at any other time.

Like daylight saving and all the other changes that we can recall, the process from the old to the new can be anticipated as difficult. It seems the chief disadvantage would be that there would be uniformity of the weeks and months. It would make all holidays like Good Friday always come on the same day of the week. The process, of course, is different. But the aim in this day is definitely toward uniformity and if a new calendar will bring this about those individuals who find personal satisfaction in being different will, of course, in due time fall in line with the stream lined way of life and regulating our time.

Under the new calendar setup, January, April, July and October will each have 31 days; all other months will contain 30 days. The extra day we tack onto February in leap years now would follow June 30 every four years.

Biggest obstacle is thought to have been overcome with the approval of the new calendar by the Vatican last summer. Now main criticism in Canada seems to be built around regularity and monotony of July 1 always falling on a Sunday or Christmas on a Monday.

Offsetting this is the obvious advantage of regularity in year-to-year business and social planning.

There is also the lure of a "free" day at the end of each year when time is suspended from New Year's Eve for 24 hours until New Year's.

Expensive Air Waves

In business circles a year-end deficit calls for some careful scrutiny by those in charge. It's rather remarkable that public scrutiny is lacking on government deficits. Business talk in terms of balances and government auditors are most particular to calculate the balance on which individuals base their tax returns.

CBC commercial revenues for the 12 month period totalled \$3.7 millions. CBC expenditures included radio and TV operating expenses of \$19.8 million, talent costs of \$1.8 million and programme costs of \$4.1 million. Cost of the Overseas service added another \$2 million to the total outlay.

It is not even necessary to tabulate these figures to see the gap between revenue and expenditure. The balance is, of course, made up from funds derived from other public sources. It is rather significant to note the comment of auditor General Watson Sellar on the accounting system of this public entertainment feature that it is "not conducive to satisfactory audit."

Whether you enjoy the services of CBC or not the public of Canada is as usual paying a heavy toll for its culture, entertainment or whatever it is that fills the air.

Who's An Old Timer?

Our trend of thought on the definition of an old-timer was started when we were invited to attend the Christmas dinner of a group with which we had ceased activity just six months previously. It was quite evident that it was not the matter of years that labelled one an old-timer.

So we sought among our friends the answer to why they referred to certain individuals as old timers. We would have liked to get the individual sample of an old timer pointed out to us, but all were very hesitant to say, "Now so and so" is what I consider a real old-timer." So we were enforced to deduce from a lot of generalities who would be an "old timer."

One said an old timer to earn the term must be well over 80, should have either grey hair or be bald. He should be able to answer matters which involved happenings of the nineties or beyond.

Another said an old timer was one who found his or her chief interest in the 50 years ago column and who referred to the good old days and

felt the present days were leading, the country and the world at large to its last days.

In our continued search we met another who said an old timer was one who took no interest in the present and lived entirely in the past. He talked in terms of what should have been done to have made impossible the errors of the present.

And yet another said an old timer was one who could recall many years back but was still anxious to be active and interested in the present day. The only thing that held him from it was the vigor of youthful years which forbade participation in sports or other activities.

We ceased our search for the answer, very thankful that not one of our friends had seen fit to designate what they considered an old timer. Appreciative we were, too, to learn that old timer is a loose term that may be affectionately applied with a gentle hand on the shoulder and it has no significance to you at all. Why even 1954 is now considered an old timer in some minds.

Everyone Does It

In the spring a housewife's attention goes to spring cleaning. It's an annual ritual. It isn't spring but around a newspaper and printing office that same ritual which obsesses a housewife occurs very often at year end. The pre-Christmas rush is over. There is all kinds of material piled up that has been in use and there's the whole batch of things that were put off from month to month since last year end. It quite often starts with the editor's desk and seeps through the whole plant. Perhaps it is just that urge to get a good start in the new year.

So it is that the past week we have been finding some things that had escaped attention. It goes anywhere from an unanswered letter to a loose bolt on a machine. One thing just leads to another when clean-up time makes its annual encroachment on a newspaper office. We get a better understanding of the viewpoint of the housewife. Maybe the reason-household spring cleaning is done in the spring is because it is the slack season in housework and it has no connection with the end-of-winter-or-the-coming-of-summer.

We know, too, after going through the annual clean-up period that it's not a frivolous but a very necessary ritual. While we have a comfortable feeling now about our own ritual of clean-up time we know full well how to appreciate the months between now and when the same upheaval strikes into the home.

Winter Hazards

Icy roads and winter weather are conditions which may suddenly become a problem to any motorist. Of course, the easy and safe thing to do is to stay off the roads under bad driving conditions but then one is often already on the roads when such conditions occur and one may also be away from home. The weather is so regularly predicted and with such quick variations that little planning can be done when it is concerned.

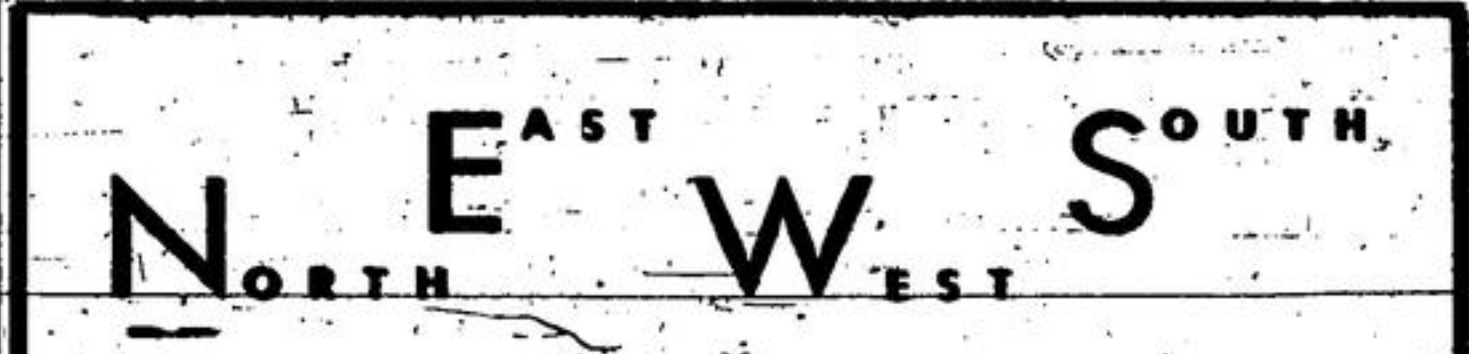
There is only one safe rule for winter driving and that is to slow down and be constantly on the alert. One section of the road may be dry and in good condition while a few yards farther on may have a short strip of ice that can cause havoc if your speed is great.

Summer or winter, spring or fall, the driver who has been drinking intoxicating beverages has no right to be in the driver's seat of any motor vehicle. In spite of all the precautions taken in the holiday season there were far too many motorists involved where drinking of intoxicants was responsible. Don't add to winter's hazards of the road. Weather conditions are obstacle enough without pouring alcohol in the systems of the drivers. It even boils in the radiators.

One long familiar with life in rural Manitoba and everyday activities of a well-rounded community has difficulty in finding any valid reason why the work, aims and objectives of such an organization as the Chamber of Commerce does not receive active support of every individual and every other organized group in every community. -Virden (Man.) Empire-Advance.



LONGEST TELEGRAM, a cheer-up telegram sent by some 20,000 football fans in Montreal to the Alouette halfback, Chuck Hunsinger, in Harrisburg, Ill., is held by Gerry Brown of CJAD, right, and Wanda Jekel of Canadian National Telegraphs. The radio station sponsored the message which measured more than 800 feet—the longest telegram ever sent between Canada and the United States.



A Pyrrhic Victory
In Oakville possibility of an early settlement to the over 80-day old Ford strike is seen as the company is reported to be backing down on its stand against province-wide arbitration. Comment from one source tabs the pending settlement a pyrrhic victory for both sides—a victory at prices so great it becomes sham.

Miss Death at Crossing
In Bronte it's reported four persons a mother and father and two year-old son with a friend narrowly missed death at a nearby railway crossing Christmas Eve when the car in which the four were riding crashed into an eastbound passenger train. Only the child was unhurt.

Dust Rises in Burlington
In Burlington quite a dust is being raised over the dismissal and protestations following dismissal of the town's recreation director for disputed reasons of incompetence and non-co-operation. Letters to the editor, an indignant Citizens' Committee, circulating petitions and the like are making a grand community issue out of the whole business.

Dogs Attack Sheep
In Georgetown it was reported last week that marauding dogs raided a flock of 44 sheep on the nearby farm of Dr. H. A. McCullough. Four sheep were killed, four others so badly mangled they had to be done away with and all others but two attacked. It's believed at least two dogs were involved in the attack.

Some Grand Larceny
In Oakville there's a good story about the grandest larceny: Thieves recently moved into a district home, carted away a truck-load of furniture—while occupants—of the house were out for the evening; the next night the same thieves backed up to a furniture store and made off with another load while the janitor, who thought the quick-working crew was making late deliveries, looked on.

Action Against Nelson
In Burlington it is reported action has been brought against Nelson township council after that municipality reportedly reneged on its land sale agreement to a British meat packing firm when it was found the property was going to be used for an abattoir. One councillor admitted surprise that litigation was entered against Nelson at all.

AT THE Churches

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 1955
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School. Good for all ages. Bring the children.
11.00 a.m.—Divine Worship. Holy Communion.
7.00 p.m.—Evening Worship. A restful, relaxing hour.

"Life is not so short but that there is always room for courtesy."

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 1955
9.00 a.m.—Holy Communion.
10.00 a.m.—Church School.
11.00 a.m.—Beginners' Class.
7.00 p.m.—Evening Prayer and Sermon.

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 1955
9.45 a.m.—Church School.
11.00 a.m.—Baptismal Service.
7.00 p.m.—Evening Worship.
"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength."
A Warm Welcome Awaits You.

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 1955
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11.00 a.m.—Morning Service.
7.00 p.m.—Evening Worship.
8.15 p.m.—B.Y.P.U.
Wednesday—4.00, Mission Band; 8.00, Prayer Meeting.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

BACK IN 1935
From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, January 5th, 1935

Last week the Acton Church Hockey League was organized with teams representing Knox, United, St. Joseph's and St. Alban's churches.

Monday was nomination day in a number of neighboring communities and elections will be held next Monday where acclamations were not accorded. In Massagawa four were nominated for reeve but all withdrew in favor of Duncan Campbell, who has been reeve for several years. In Esqueving township an acclamation was accorded Reeve Currie, Deputy Reeve Mullin, and Councillors G. W. Murray, N. A. Robinson and W. A. Wilson.

Fire broke out at the Masonic Hall, Campbellville, on Tuesday, completely destroying the building before the fire reels from Milton arrived on the scene. There was quite a wind which fanned the flames and endangered nearby buildings.

That new political party, the C.C.F., came very much to the forefront as a bogey in the Toronto election campaign.

Possession of all revolvers and pistols should now be registered with the local police. Failure to do so carries a rather heavy penalty.

Robins were reported as seen in Acton on New Year's Day.

Last week's travelling circus arrived in Rockwood and remained till Monday. On Saturday evening a concert was put on in the town hall featuring Dixie the mule.

W. Bro. C. A. Darby was installed W.M. of Walker Lodge at the meeting on Thursday night.

Eighty members and Sunday school scholars sat down to well-laden tables at the Baptist Sunday school Christmas tree held on Friday evening. Mr. Easter, the pastor, ably presided over the short program.

The blizzards of Saturday and Tuesday have kept the snowplows busy clearing the roads.

BACK IN 1905
From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, January 5th, 1905

Knox Sunday school for many years has provided a popular entertainment on the evening of New Year's Day and this year proved no exception. Usually the program has been given entirely by members of the school but this year a departure was made from the usual custom and a couple of entertainers from Toronto provided the major part of the program. Rev. Wilson introduced the artists of the evening in a happy manner and his comments on local current events were enjoyed.

On Monday we began to write 1905 on our envelopes. It seems but a few weeks since we were writing 18— but already five years have gone.

King Edward rink is now in full blast with fine ice and a good nightly attendance.

Property is changing hands. Mr. W. H. Denny has sold the brick dwelling in Association Terrace belonging to the estate of the late Mrs. Wilson-Ramshaw to Mr. W. E. Stewart, Principal of the Schools.

Mr. Denny has also sold the George Lamb house on Scene St. to Mr. William Brown and the house on Willow St. next Knox Manse to Mr. Thos. E. Price. Mr. Frank Gamble has purchased from Mr. J. Matthews the two-storey dwelling on Willow St. opposite St. Alban's parsonage.

Reduced prices at William White's hardware store, corner Mill and Main Sts., on arctic robes, gauntlets, horse blankets, and whips.

R. B. Scott January clearing— heavy wool Scotch knit underwear, regular \$1.50 per suit, now 85c; men's dress overcoats, regular \$8.50, for \$4.95. Special prices on gait robes. We will be glad to have all outstanding accounts closed as conveniently as possible.

The only contest on Monday for municipal honors was the reeve-ship. There were 305 votes cast, with a majority of 39 for George Hynds.

Port Arthur, whose hills have for months ran red, surrendered on New Year's Day to the fierce tenacity of the Japanese attack.

WIRE LOSSES
Regina (CP)—A total of 1,206 fires with property loss of more than \$1,960,000 was reported in Saskatchewan for the first nine months of last year. They caused 16 deaths and injuries to 31.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

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Phone 159

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Physician and Surgeon
Corner of Willow and River Sts.
Entrance River Street
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Phone 228

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X-RAY

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TELEPHONE 19 - ACTON

MISCELLANEOUS

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The Acton Free Press

The Only Paper Ever Published in Acton

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James Dills, John Black, Associate Editors

BUSINESS AND EDITORIAL OFFICE TELEPHONE 174

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.; 5.01 p.m.; 6.33 p.m.; 8.3 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)
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.; 7.15 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 12.23 a.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 8.43 a.m. (flagstop); Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 7.05 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun.; flagstop Acton 6.10 p.m.

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