

# EDITORIAL

### Mother's Day

We cannot recall just how many years since Mother's Day was first observed. It was, however, a happy and contagious coincidence that found ready acceptance over the entire countryside—not only for a day on which to honor all mothers but the choice of the time of year, the second Sunday in May. This year Mother's Day comes the earliest in the month that is possible. As we write this the week before it appears that the weather is co-operating for the early date.

Mother's Day is something that through the years has gained momentum. There has never been a question but mothers and their memory deserved all the acclaim that could be accorded. There has never been a doubt but that early May was the most appropriate time for this tribute.

Flowers are just coming into bloom. It's such a simple thing to bring one's thinking and tribute into accord with honoring not only your mother but all the mothers of today and all the mothers who have left such beautiful memories behind and are with us no more except in spirit. There is nothing new that can be written or said about the mothers of the world and the part they have played in our lives. Those memories and loyalties are something that are individual and sacred in the lives of all. They may vary as the people are different. But they have one thing in common—the love and affection of motherhood is something that deserves a place every day of the year and a day that is universal in the combined thinking of everyone.

### A Missing Item

While it is readily admitted that the section of No. 25 highway between Acton and Milton is one of the most scenic routes in the district, it lacks any of those roadside tables or picnic spots which are so common and so much used along Ontario highways.

Places to establish roadside tables are not lacking in this 11 mile strip. As a start we might suggest that curve just south of Speyside where the bush comes right up to the roadside and there is plenty of parking space off the pavement. A little waterfall is near at hand and the view to the south and east is worthwhile. Matter of fact, we have seen parties on many occasions stopping here even without the roadside table facilities. There are other spots equally inviting along this highway. But just a couple of these roadside tables would for a start find much favor with motorists who travel this route.

Perhaps from the highway program outlined for Ontario this year we may hope for some roadside tables on highway 25.

### Needless Slaughter

From now until the end of September, more than 1,000 Canadians will die needlessly on the country's highways and streets. Since 1945, more Canadians have been killed on the roads than were killed in all the land battles of the Second World War and in Korea. The Canadian Good Roads Association is the authority for the road casualty estimates. One Canadian dies in a traffic accident every three hours.

Fifty-six Canadians die on the roads every week, or about 225 every month. In 1953 the traffic death toll was almost 3,000—the highest since the Second World War. Most of those deaths could have been avoided.

In an effort to cut the toll, the association has called Canada's first highway safety conference in Ottawa May 24-26. Federal, provincial, municipal, business and industrial representatives will try to set up a national program of remedial action. The program will be aimed at both motorists and pedestrians. Both groups are involved in the highway death and injury toll. The amazing thing is that such a program should be necessary.

Every Canadian knows the traffic toll is heavy. The newspapers—particularly on Mondays and on days after statutory holidays—are full of accident stories. But the normal reaction is "It won't happen to me."

### It is Clear?

The events of the week in certain labor relations in Acton indicate that citizens of Acton are quite capable of handling their own local affairs. In spite of relentless pressure from outside Acton, council backed by most citizens has made it clear that the stand they took was vindicated and there is no intention of a changed attitude.

We do hope this is quite clear now to those from out-of-town who have attempted to dictate an unacceptable policy. We commend Acton council and the citizens as a whole. We hope the disturbers will seek greener pastures or confine their efforts to their own communities. There are other things that require attention in a growing town and there's a lot of wastepaper to dispose of.

### Vitamins of Spring

You can get your vitamins in capsules or pills throughout the winter. Many have found that you can escape the snow and cold weather by going south. But no one has ever found anything that will replace that feeling that makes you lean on the rake or shovel, or that prompts one to just want to go fishing or loaf in the springtime and visit with those you just meet casually.

What is it that prompts farmer to quit the plow and leave his work to sit on the line fence and chat with a neighbor? What is it that makes neighbors in town get together and loaf a little in the process of planting a garden? Why is it that the golf courses have a bigger attraction when the season first opens? Some may also add, what makes men get together for a fishing party? The answer seems to obviously be companionship and an opportunity to enjoy it in the great outdoors. It's not a matter of bodily health but an atmosphere of friendliness that can only be secured over the back line fences, or over the pile of leaves and rubbish being burned, or over the sport and play that have been but memories for many months of winter.

Get a few months of summer weather and the joys of just being out-of-doors loses some of its novelty. Vacations and work on the land and preparation for harvest take their places in our summer weather. But you can't get your vitamins of neighborly friendliness any way or any other time than in the first warm days of early summer.

### A Dog's Life

We wouldn't blame any dog that had a home in town for running away from home and not returning until next fall. Folks in town like gardens, flower beds and nice lawns. They like to keep the garbage in containers and readily carried away in the collection. These people who own the homes, pay for the streets, pay for water to sprinkle lawns and shrubs feel that dogs have no right to molest and destroy the things they want.

In view of the fact that dogs are in disagreement with this urge for beauty and tidiness it seems that there just isn't room in towns and cities for the two factions to live peacefully during the summer. Of course, if the dog wants to stay at home he can spend the summer tied up to a tree, dig within the limits of the length of his rope or chain and snap at flies within his range. If the dog has thoughtful owners he can have his meals brought to him at regular intervals.

With towns as close as they are today there just doesn't seem any wide open spaces. If there are the dog is liable to get shot for playing with sheep or other farm animals. There's nothing for it but for dogs to hibernates in summer and dream away the weary months contemplating the days when the flowers have lost their bloom and the lawns are not tidy and he can then regain the life that a dog was intended to live.

### Brief Comment

One characteristic of the present unemployment situation is that the untrained, under-educated worker has the most trouble. Then there are those whose skills have been cut into. . . It has been suggested that these groups need training to supply them with new skills. — Barrie (Ont.) Examiner.



—Photo by Esther Taylor

**CAT IN A HAT**, with another friend pawing around, is caught by the photographer in this animal study. Cats, the smaller the better, always make good models and even the younger ones own some of the sense of feline vanity, as the look of curious arrogance in the hat-throned kitten seems to attest.



**Canvass Swindlers**  
In and around Burlington it's reported swindlers are trying to make some dirty dollars acting as collectors for the Muscular Dystrophy fund which throughout this district has been conducted legally by local fire departments. Citizens are being warned not to donate any money to outsiders posing as canvassers. Firemen are the only authorized collectors.

**A Surprise Budget**  
In Oakville the 1955 tax rate was struck last week and it hit a repeat figure of 45 mills. Reductions in the county rate and general purpose rate were countered, naturally enough, by rises in the public and school rates. Oakville's mayor Lachlan McArthur called the budget a "surprise budget", on account of it heaved to the 1954 line.

**Dogs Breaking the Laws**  
In Bronte angling eyes are being cast at errant dogs by the Oakville Humane Society whose members are hesitant to go after the loose canines around the village because no grant is forthcoming from the municipality toward the society's work. Dogs aren't adhering to Bronte by-laws apparently, and the local officials are a bit puzzled about what to do.

**But Once a Week**  
In Oakville, though town council has approved the purchase of a \$15,000 bulldozer to clean up the dump and bury refuse in future, it is reported that to economize, garbage collection will be made but once a week instead of twice a week beginning May 1. New schedules have been posted for the garbage collection.

**Lacrosse Shapes Up**  
In Georgetown it's reported the lacrosse season is shaping up for the year with some players already signed for the team. There is no official word where Georgetown will be grouped in intermediate circles, as the team will try to move on from last year's stall in the quest for a second Ontario championship.

**Soccer Sprouts Out**  
In Bronte, on a different sports front, the United soccer club came up with a 3-1 victory for the home town fans in an exhibition match

**Water on their Minds**  
In Milton, it's learned there's water supply for more than 3,500 people. With this in mind, the area planning board last week studied a report from the International Water Supply Co. outlining the availability of 770,000 gallons daily with more if needed. No action was taken but the matter will get greater consideration.

**Lodge 50th Birthday**  
In Milton last week the Evening Star Rebekah Lodge No. 79 started on its second 50 years of activity with a birthday party spread in the town hall and a guest list of nearly 200 people who enjoyed, among other events, the cutting of a gleaming, four-tiered cake trimmed appropriately, with gold.

**Oakville Rate 45 Same as Last Year**  
Oakville's tax bills will be the same as last year, as Mayor Lachlan McArthur announced a budget calling for 45 mills, unchanged from 1954. Highlight of the estimates, which call for taxpayers to contribute \$669,212, were an allocation of \$5,000 for a town manager; an increase to \$52,290 in the police department costs, up from \$44,000, and streets and sidewalks estimates of \$80,290, almost \$15,000 less than last year.

**AT THE Churches**

**UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**  
Acton, Ontario  
Rev. E. A. Curry, B.A., B.D.  
Minister  
Parsonage—29 Bower Avenue  
Phone 60  
Mr. George Elliott,  
Organist and Choir Leader,  
76 Bower Ave., Acton, phone 6

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA**  
KNOX CHURCH, ACTON  
REV. ROBERT H. ARMSTRONG  
M.A., B.D., Minister  
SUNDAY, MAY 8th, 1955  
11.00 a.m.—Children's Service and Baptism  
7.00 p.m.—Evening Worship  
"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength."  
A Warm Welcome Awaits You

**ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH**  
(Anglican)  
Rev. Evan H. Jones, B.A., L.Th.  
Rector  
SUNDAY, MAY 8th, 1955  
9.00 a.m.—Corporate Communion and Breakfast for the young people of the Parish.  
10.00 a.m.—Church School.  
11.00 a.m.—Beginners' Class.  
4.15 p.m.—Holy Baptism.  
7.00 p.m.—Evening Prayer and Sermon.  
—Again this year a Junior Farmer from Scotland visited in Halton county. More details are given on the farm news page.

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

### BACK IN 1935

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, May 9, 1935.

The observance and celebration in honor of the Silver Jubilee of the accession of George V was marked very fittingly in Acton on Monday. A parade was followed by service in the park. There was a Jubilee euchre and dance in the legion hall in the evening.

The play presented by the A.Y. P.A. players was greeted with a packed house in the town hall and the audience had nothing but praise for the players. In the play were Anne Holmes, May Waterhouse, Harry Ware, Eddie Footitt, Lillian Perry, Leona Waller, Barbara Taylor, John Prest, Olive Rookes, Harry Rogers, Esther Taylor and Clara Bauer. Mrs. Buchanan, who directed the play, was presented with a basket of flowers.

Outstanding speakers in the Work of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire gave splendid addresses at the banquet of the Lakeside Chapter Friday evening in the Parish Hall, where the members of the Duke of Devonshire chapter were also guests. The banquet was capably served by the girls of the I.O.D.E. troop of Girl Guides. Miss Joan R. Arnold, former Regent of the National chapter, and Mrs. Gordon Thompson, national honorary vice-regent, both spoke.

Very satisfactory reports were at the annual meeting of the Women's Institute. Officers elected included president Mrs. J. E. Gamble; vice-presidents Mrs. R. L. Davidson, Mrs. A. Reesor, secretary-treasurer, Miss E. Hawthorne.

The Halton Presbytery of the United Church in Canada assembled in Acton on May 2.

A special meeting of the Public Utilities Commission was held to confer with dealers regarding the plan of sale of electric stoves in Acton. Messrs. W. D. Talbot, M. Symon, W. R. E. Blair and Jos. N. Reid were present.

The heir to the throne, the Prince of Wales, has had a radio installed in his plane. The Prime Minister also has one.

### BACK IN 1905

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, May 4, 1905.

The assessor of this municipality has completed the assessment of 1905 with the result that the total value of assessable property under the new act in Acton is \$387,480. The business tax this year aggregated \$39,400. Returns for population show an increase of 58. The assessor succeeded in locating 89 dogs in town. The increase of nearly \$50,000 in the total assessment will enable council to reduce the rate of taxation this year from two to two and a half mills, if the expenditures are kept at the same economical point of 1904.

The monthly meeting of the Women's Institute will be held in the town hall on Friday evening. The topic to be discussed is Outdoor Exercises for women. Young women of the town are cordially invited.

The old mill dam at the foot of Mill Street is one of Acton's landmarks. Early residents and former citizens have been actors in scenes of interest there through the eighty years of its existence. Some were of sorrow; several drownings took place. Some were of pleasure, notably when the bonspiels, skating races and shinny matches were in progress. Lately the dam has shown signs of weakness. To strengthen and improve the dam Beardmore Co. have had a gang of workmen employed during the past month. It appears now to be good for another half century.

Appear well-dressed at the ball in the town hall to-night! Every necessity in dress shirts, collars, cuffs, neckwear and hose has been secured. If you want to be well tied, collared and cuffed see Sherman, the Men's Outfitter, Mill St.

The annual report of the Registrar General shows that of every one thousand children born, one hundred and eleven die before they reach the age of one year. Most of these deaths could be avoided if mother kept on hand this simple remedy, etc. etc.

The new fire escape and exit thereto at the town hall have been completed.

## PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

- MEDICAL**
- DR. W. G. C. KENNEY**  
Physician and Surgeon  
Office in Symon Block,  
43A Mill St. E., Acton  
Office Phone 78  
Residence 115 Church St. E.  
Phone 150
- DR. D. A. GARRETT**  
Physician and Surgeon  
Corner of Willow and River Sts.  
Entrance—River Street  
Acton, Ontario  
Phone 238
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Dental Surgeon  
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Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
X-RAY  
TELEPHONE 148
- 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 Av.  
Acton—Phone 130
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Phone—Milton 16521

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ACTON STUDIO  
St. Alban's Parish Hall  
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Phone 296
- 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.; 8:55  
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 5:40 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 11:40 p.m.; Daily except Sunday 8:46 a.m.; 6:55 p.m. (flag-stop); 7:49 p.m.; Saturday only 12:27 p.m.; Sunday only 9:03 a.m. (flag-stop). Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 7:05 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. to detain passengers from West Toronto and beyond 5:31 p.m.; Daily, except Sat. and Sun. Flyer at Guelph 5:57 p.m.

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