well-known Acton landmark, and upper left is the Beardmore annexation addition.

ACTON FROM THE AIR is shown well spread out with plenty of plant. This year an additional 465 acres was added to the town's Edsy Access Makes space to grow, especially in industrial development as the ample boundaries to bring in a total of 917 acres. The large expanse at rail siding area at centre right illustrates. Top right is Eairy Lake, a right is zoned for industrial use, and was in part included in the Acton's Location

M. HOLMES Planning Board Chairman

# O.A.C. To North University to South

For students here, an Acton high school diploma doesn't necessarily mean the end of training. Many higher educational facilities are very close and so economical to at-

Commuting home week-ends is easy for University of Toronto students. It's just 45 miles with frequent busses and trains. One talented Actonian, Frank Bean, travels to Toronto for singing lessons at the Conservatory of Music and the United Church organist, George Elliott, goes to Toronto regularly for further organ training. These are just examples of the unlimited possibilities of advanced education

within reasonable distance. For those whose interests, lie in another direction-there's a short trip in another direction, too. Just 15 miles up No. 7 highway is Guelph with its famous Ontario Agricultural College, the Ontario Veterinary College and Macdonald Instittute. Many local students go there to obtain a degree, or to attend a valuable short course or conven-

Would-be teachers choose between Hamilton and Toronto Teachers' Colleges. Within 15 miles there are two

business colleges—one in Milton, the "County town" of Halton, and another in Guelph.

### **Labor Conditions** Satisfactory Here

Local conditions make this part! of Ontario very favorable in re-

gard to labor. Within the area imediately circling Toronto, which includes Acton. there are 40 per cent of all the manufacturing employees of the entire province.

Living conditions for labor ere good here, with a wide diversity of industry with a minimum of seasonal operations.

There has not been a strike at an Acton industry, for the past fifty,

rears.

Labor rates are moderate and the labor turnever small. Labor "laws .. covering working ! hours, warkmen's compensation. factory conditions, etc. are moder-!

ate yet not onerous. In the majority of instances they have been determined to the mutual satisfaction of employee and entployer, after years of progressive negotia-

### Picnics in Park Summer Highlight

and fishermen come to Acton park from miles away. On the other side of Fairy Lake Sonny Jocque has created another park called The Breezes, with cabins refreshment booth and boats

for rent.

During the summer picnickers

# Commercial Life Active Through Full Range of Business Categories

When residents take a look at found in the practice of merchants Acton, they realize it's strictly a refusing support to outside requests Acton, they realize it's strictly a refusing support to outside requests one horse town. Business facility for donations until the solicitor has Salk Polio Vaccine ies have expanded over the last been interviewed by the Chamber years so much the only horse on of Commerce cmmittee. ocal streets is driven by a milk-

There is a total of 64 different classifications of business in retail and service establishments that fill the needs of local residents. The majority of the business section is located on Mill St. with some circling the corner on to Main Street. Acton merchants have their shelves well stocked with the merchandise requirements for residents of the town and surrounding district.

Postal and express facilities are provided at the post office with six Natural Growth trains carrying incoming and outgoing mail daily. The Customs office was recently named-on the basis of the volume of business handled-a port of entry providing ideal facilities for importation of pressive importance. goods by industry and smaller

ists and one veterinarian are located is third largest. in the municipality as well as rest home, a nursing home and the most central; the most popula-

funeral director. Legal facilities, the Bank of Nova Scotia and Bank of Montreal. two hotels and eight garages are of the province. Torongo. also included in Acton's wellrounded list of services and facil- sion has nothing of the earmarks

governs those who solicit support portant position occupied by Canawithin the municipality and serves da in world affairs. as a protection to prospective pur-! With its vast supplies of raw

chasers of transient goods. Protection for the businessman is



President of the C. of C.

While Acton may be physically only a one horse town, its commercial section reflects the varying given to Acton children in grades needs and desires of a growing one, two and three currently. The shopping is still a feature of the administering the vaccine even bebusiness section that provides the fore the final report on its value friendly meeting and exchange of was released, pioneering in protec- vice is only about the same travconversation on Mill Street Satur- tion for local children. day night.

# Not Just Big Boom

In all of the national growth in Canada, Ontario has shown by far the greatest gains and Acton, now enjoys a strategic position of im-

In natural resources Canada ranks as one of the wealthiest Two medical doctors, two dent- countries in the world. In area it Of its ten provinces. Ontario is

ted, and the wealthiest. Acton is located in the hub of industry which circles the capital

The present unprecedent expanof a boom. It is a matural growth A hawkers and peddlers by-law paralleling the increasingly im-

> materials: its greatly expanded capacity of production; its rapidly growing domestic market and increasing foreign demand for its products, Canada now ranks among the world's leading trading nations.

Acton has had a variety of bands, the first organized in 1875.

Given to Children The Salk polio vaccine is being town. The familiar Saturday night Halton County Health Unit began

The children made no fuss as they received their inoculations from the Health Unit team. A nurse from the unit is in at- Railways, whose main line from For Acton Stores tendance at the public school regu-

larly. Also under the Unit's jurisdiction is the Baby Clinic. Acton has two doctors, two dentists and a chiropractor.



DR. F. G. OAKES Public Utilities Chairman

# ACTON - AN IDEAL INDUSTRIAL SITE IN PREMIER PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

Within a 100 mile radius of Acton, Ontario there is a concentration of Ontario's greatest buying power, which

prov	inc	e	al	so re	epre	sent	s:	·· _ ·
337	of	Ć	an	ada's	TO	ATC	L	Population.
40"	••			••	•	••		Domestic_Income
387	••		8.5	••		**		Retail Sales
4477				**		••		Buying Power
52%	**			**		••		Manufacturing Production
4877	**			••				Purchases by Industry
457	**			••		**		Motor Vehicle Registration
55° i	**			••	į.	٠.	्	Electric Energy Consumed
50'7	••			;•			- 1	Household Appliance Purchases
45%	**	•		••		••		Chain Store Merchandising
46";	**			••				Residential Telephones

#### Special Supplement

# The Story of Acton Today

the Free Press, prepared under the sponsorship of the local Chamber of Commerce, brings to Free Press readers and to hundreds of others who have never seen this newspaper before a comprehensive story in words and pictures of Acton today.

The Chamber of Commerce making this special edition possible had opened the doors for hundreds on this continent and in Europe, to learn something of this active in-

ightieth Year.

to tures of its social institutional life.

To many familiar with Acton this edition will reaffirm that this is a prosperous and pleasant community in which to live. It will reflect the pride Actonians have for their home town.

To others, not familiar with Acton, this edition may offer some idea how a progressive small town in Ontario-Canada's industrial heart- lives today!

That's why extra copies of this dustrial community and the rich Free Press supplement, are being agricultural area in which it lies. printed this week. These copies its-commercial activity and stra- and industrial expositions abroad, tential, in Acton today.

can industrial offices, government planning and development departments and to the Canadian Chamber of Commerce for distri-

This year, with nearly 500 new homes planned for erection in town, new families will be expected to assimilate into the business and social life of Acton. The business directory, on the back page of this supplement, will be useful to these people, as will the social di rectory on local organizations.

There is much valuable informa On these pages will be found not will be sent to trade commission- tion in these pages, just as there only stories of Acton's industries, ers, international commerce houses is much of value, current and po-

Special Section

# Acton Mirrors the Progress Of Canada's Small Towns

ACTON, ONTARIO, MAY 26, 1955

# **Good For Industry**

Acton is an easy place to get out of and is equally as simple to get into. Located at the junction of highways seven and 25, it has north-south, east-west highway travel facilitated by regular Gray Coach bus service. The third highway that will add noticeably to the east-west travel is the all new 401 highway that will cross No. 25 highway only a few miles south of town when its construction is completed, linking Toronto and the Quebec border.

Air travel is convenient with the Malton airport just over 25 miles away. Linking the major cities of the continent, this air travel serfling distance from Acton as it is from the centre of Toronto.

Passenger and freight service is provided by the Canadian National Stratford to Toronto serves Acton. Within the town itself, taxi service meets the need of residents and rice hauling.

Bustling seaway activity will be busiest. only 30 miles from Acton at Port Credit, where a major port is expected to be located.

er. Acton is located for easy access, tradition,



# Saturday Busiest

Saturday night is the evening "in town" for the farm families of the cartage and trucking facilities are district. Although farm wives drive available for short and long dist- for their shopping when it's needed, Saturday is still the day the town is

Groups of friends chatting on street corners, their bundles in their arms, recall that modern living has ration. A town works foreman. sim-By plane, train, truck, or freight- not eliminated this pleasant habit of

# ACTON'S DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIES

note of Acton's industrial output, Centre of Progress." Cold statistics tell us that over \$2,-000,000 a year is paid to Acton work- industries are old, some new. The ers and more than a thousand are variety has provided an attractively two important departments. imployed in the 20 industrial es- balanced economy for the town gen-

ducts that exceed \$10,000,000 a year join the community. and are shipped from Acton on their route to other countries and across Canada.

Hospital supplies, fine leathers, neavy punch presses, fire brick, wood and steel structures, knit goods, plastic products, combed wool, electrical appliances, gloves

### Fondness for Books Developed Early

"I want a Bobbsey twins!" Ungrammatical but apt, that's a popular remark among the junior readers of Acton as they line up regularly, every two weeks, with their classes for "library day."

Shepherded by teachers, the boys and girls develop a fondness for reading early as they search through the titles in the well-stocked children's section of the library.

PAY TWO MILLION IN YEARLY WAGES Variety, the old adage says, is the | and shoes are among the products |

erally on which solid plans for a Old and comparatively new in- bright future can be made by presdustries contribute to the gross pro- ent industry and those who would

### **Arrival of Gas** Appears Imminent

Several companies have appreached the Acton council within recent weeks seeking natural gas franchises. A general plan to serve the north section of Halton county with this commodity, new to the area, has been presented that would necessitate a pipe line from one crossing the south section of the

county. Interest has been sparked in this development by the announcement of the local Anthony Gas and Oil Explorations Ltd. of discovery of four natural gas wells within a few miles of the town. Drilling operations are continuing.

Acton arena was erected in 1929

#### 1950-120 years after its founding as a settler's cabin - mirrors the character and progress bound in the growth through generations of Canada's small towns. Aside from its people and institutions that make the character. the Town when capitalized denotes its legislative and administrative personality. And this, changing yet constant, frames the progress. In this Town, as in all towns, the municipal council is the first legislative body. A nine-man group elected for a one-year term, the Council, under the direction of a Mayor, Reeve and Deputy-Reeye, employs its responsibility to pass by-laws, collect taxes and spend a budget, set administrative policy, direct town works, implement expansion and generally guide the course of municipal affairs. Its prime responsibility, within

#### which the Mayor is a member. Under a chairman and commissioners who are also elected, but for twospice of life but it's also the key- that bear a label "Made in Acton, year terms, the P.U.C. steers the In terms of years some of the and waterworks services through

operation and extension of hydro superintendents of each of these An integral adjunct of the Council is the Planning Board, a sevenman body responsible to the Town for current and long-range co-ord-

the laws of the Municipal Act, is to

the needs and welfare of the citiz-

Direct administration of finances

streets and sewers, public buildings

and parks, falls on Councillors'

shoulders. Through the office of the

Clerk, assessment, building inspect-

ion, terms of procedure and contin-

uity of business are other related

responsibilities which combine ad-

ministrative and executive function.

a volunteer fire brigade and three-

man police force operate with the

chief of each department referred

to a council committee for co-ord-

ination with the general administ-

ilarly directs his department on

direction from a Council commit-

Separate, but conducting in trust

the operation of municipal utilit-

ies for the Council, is the five-man

Public Utilities Commission of

To protect Acton's 3,040 residents,

ens who elect it.

ination of land development, planned town growth, zoning and building regulation and related problems of policy. In Acton, the Clerk acts as sec-

retary on all three of these bodies, insuring accurate- bridging of information. The Mayor's official postion on each organization; lends an overtone of policy continuity. Continuity is vital, for a town in

a sense is big business-with the profit motive missing. In 1955, Acton will ask its ratepayers for \$209,039 to maintain and add to its communal assets. A mill rate of 70 is set to raise this amount, based on an assessment of land and building worth of \$2.986,944.

This year, with 465 acres added to the town's area by an annexation award, assessment has increased \$485,258 over 1954, bringing the balance of assessment to 30 per cent. industrial, 51 per cent, residential and the remainder farm and com-

Shareholders in this business, on participating basis, are the nearly 1.400 Actonians who form the elary and wage-earning force in the community.



J. W. WOLFE P. 6. Board Chairman

### Approximate Highway Mileage

From Acton

Buffalo       78         Chicago       485         Cleveland       272         Detroit       212         Erie       171         Hamilton       35         London       92         Montreal       390         Niagara Falls       70         Ottawa       320         Port Huron       175         Port Credit       30         Toledo       275         Toronto       45		•	
Chicago       485         Cleveland       272         Detroit       212         Erie       171         Hamilton       35         London       92         Montreal       390         Niagara Falls       70         Ottawa       320         Port Huron       175         Port Credit       30         Toledo       275	Buffalo	. 78	
Cleveland   272	Chicago		53
Erie       171         Hamilton       35         London       92         Montreal       390         Niagara Falls       70         Ottawa       320         Port Huron       175         Port Credit       30         Toledo       275		272	
Erie       171         Hamilton       35         London       92         Montreal       390         Niagara Falls       70         Ottawa       320         Port Huron       175         Port Credit       30         Toledo       275	Detroit		
Hamilton       35         London       92         Montreal       390         Niagara Falls       70         Ottawa       320         Port Huron       175         Port Credit       30         Toledo       275	Erie	. 171	
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Montreal			
Ottawa 320 Port Huron 175 Port Credit 30 Toledo 275		The second secon	j.
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Port Huron			-
Port Credit			. 8
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	Toronto	. 45	E

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