

The Acton Free Press
The only paper ever published in Acton

1955 PRIZE WINNER
CANADIAN WEEKLY
NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION
BEST NEWS PAPER COMPETITION

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1956 is Important to You
Tomorrow night is Citizens' Night in Acton. You won't be asked for any admission charge. There won't be any reception committee to greet you at the town hall and you can stay as long as the audience finds the meeting of interest. The fellow citizens you choose to guide the affairs of our town are going to be your choice. If you do not see that they are placed in nomination tomorrow night there is no other opportunity until 1956. It is well to remember that while there is no limit to the number of nominees for office, the persons nominated must have certain qualifications and there must be consent of the nominee to allow his or her name to be placed on the nomination slate if the candidate is not able to be present at the meeting. If you are not sure of the simple rules it might be well to contact the municipal office for clarification prior to the meeting and not after.

Nomination night is the public forum for all citizens of our town. It's the place to get information regarding municipal affairs. You may think that your particular section or yourself has been badly treated. Go with an open mind to hear the problems of civic administration which must be considered as a whole and not individually.

It's well to remember, too, that those who serve you do not take these duties for gain. Their action in filling office is motivated by a willingness to serve in this capacity. Lack of citizens to serve means a breakdown of our democratic form of self-government. We have through the years talked with many who have served in municipal affairs and we have never heard one say that they regretted the experience and understanding gained. True we have met many who after several years have been adamant in refusal to again serve, but none who have admitted regret for the service rendered and the understanding gained.

We urge every citizen of Acton to go to nomination meeting tomorrow night and go with an inquiring and an open mind. It is no place for personal grievances or abuse but an opportunity for securing information and understanding of the town as a whole and of joining those folks who yearly do their utmost for community advancement.

Remember, that while the annual report of the past year is important, the problems to be faced in 1956 are of far greater importance. The experience of the past can serve its best purpose by being a guide for the future. Tomorrow night the call for 1956 goes out to the citizens of Acton. It takes no prophet to see the problems of the coming year are many and complex in a town that is having such rapid expansion.

No Lack Here

The Lachute Waichman complains of the lack of organized social activity for youth and says that some blame it for evidence of juvenile lawlessness. In Acton it would seem that any youth of the town has plenty of organized activity. Perhaps this factor can be credited for the recent sane observance of Halloween here. On that particular night however, there wasn't any organized activity. But then, of course, one would not expect one night of organization to cure years of disorganization.

We have often wondered if the young people of this community fully realize the facilities they have for social activity. We think they do but it won't do any harm to enumerate them.

There's the Y.M.C.A. with a full program for boys and girls and church groups with a full program. The Scouts, Cubs, and Guides have their own quarters. There are bowling greens and tennis courts and ball diamonds and football fields in summer. In winter there's the arena for skating and hockey (weather permitting). There are night classes at the school and, added to this all the social groups for games, dances and smaller social functions. There's the band and other musical groups. We didn't know ourselves this was such a busy town and we'll bet we missed many others in this enumeration.

Actonians cannot complain, however, of lack of opportunity for social activity. A full program is available for all groups.

Seasonal Change

That first snowfall and foretaste of winter last week-end was a reminder that the filling of the radiator with anti-freeze was not the most important duty of every motorist. Roads with snow and ice require a great change in driving habit. Chains and tire treads are helpful in keeping motor cars moving. None of the devices, however, are going to be effective if we do not cut down on driving speeds to meet winter conditions.

Even the snow plowing and sanding of our highways leave some treacherous road conditions. It takes only a few feet of icy pavement to turn a car into a wreck and send folks to the hospital. Time was a few years back when traffic was lighter that with a spin out of control you had the whole road or a soft snowbank to get things righted. With heavier traffic there just isn't even a few feet to regain control. You bring not only damage to yourself but to other motorists. There are conditions during winter when even 20 miles per hour is not a safe driving limit.

Another winter hazard for motorists is carbon monoxide. It is as odorless and colorless as it is deadly. Doubtless those who fall victims of the gas meet a painful death... but it is nonetheless permanent. Despite warnings, and listed deaths, there are many who will continue to ignore safety precautions against the gas... until it is too late. People will continue to park, leaving their motors running and their heaters on. In some cases the gas will seep in and the occupants of the car become drowsy until they are unable to do anything to help themselves by the time they realize what has happened. Other people will run the motor of their car inside the garage too long. And, lulled into the sleep of death, they will be found too late. Even with the garage door open there is a strong chance of the fumes being blown back in, or of the doors swinging closed. Carbon monoxide gas is too deadly to be fooled with. Winter driving conditions are here.

Forced Changes

Another town has joined the ranks of those communities in which the operation of two newspapers has been found to be unprofitable and unnecessary. The Bracebridge Gazette after 85 years of service to that town and district has ceased publication. The paper will hereafter be known as the Herald-Gazette. The plant, newspaper and goodwill have been sold to the publishers of the Muskoka Herald.

In making the announcements and regrets last week, Mr. C. E. Bond, president of the Bracebridge Gazette Co. made this significant statement: "Under the combined newspapers the editors will have sufficient scope to present an enlarged newspaper to the district. Businessmen will also benefit in a lower advertising rate than was possible when they used both The Gazette and The Herald to bring their messages to the readers of both papers. It will take a little time to combine the two mailing lists and the two plants but we feel sure that when all is complete the readers will like the new set-up."

Another part of the statement is also significant: "It is not easy to part with a medium with which one has been associated for years. Present day costs of operation along with the extreme shortage of skilled help were the main reasons behind the move to amalgamate the two newspapers."

Gone are the days when a few dollars would start a newspaper and printing plant. Modern machinery has changed the scene. But it's not cheap machinery and the skill of the worker must be greater to operate the new equipment. Wages and hours of working, increased cost of paper and materials have made the publishing of a newspaper for any community an operation which does not allow the duplication of earlier years.

Folks in Bracebridge will miss the Gazette after 85 years. We'll miss it in the newspaper exchange list. But there is no doubt the joining of the newspapers in the community will give added strength and opportunity for wider service to the town it serves.

Brief Comment

In Pembroke, as in numerous other places, it has been customary for some years to observe the day after Christmas as Boxing Day, but this year, December 25 falling on Sunday, Christmas will be observed the following day. What then is to be done about Boxing Day?—Pembroke (Ont.) Observer.

We regret the passing of the old molasses hogshead from the general store. Buying a gallon of molasses in the wintertime was a leisurely process—part of the enjoyable fabric of rural life. So time marches on and we now buy our molasses in packages—neat, antiseptic and uninteresting.—St. Croix (N.B.) Courier.

Important Canadian news and official statements, just don't get into American newspapers, declares the Ottawa Journal, which adds: "The truth is that the only way by which Canadians can get noticed in the United States press, or much noticed, is to have more quintuplets—a pretty rugged regime. Speeches just get into wastebaskets."



NOVEMBER SNOWS linger on the ground this week after the season's first snowfall of any amount. Officially winter is only a month away, Christmas only a month from tomorrow. Before too many more frosty nights, snow will be piled higher and scenes like this one won't be at all unusual in the town and district.

The Bible Today
REV. G. P. PARSON, District Secretary.
Upper Canada Bible Society

If the Bible ever suffered from neglect, it did about a generation ago. Today, however, it has returned to "front and centre" in the stage of things. Before World War I, in halcyon days of peace and prosperity, the idea that the world was steadily getting better was prevalent. Religion was irrelevant or at least of no special significance except as a particular pattern of life. One writer went so far as to say, "The Bible lost its former place in the pulpit, the classroom and the home."

Soon after that war, however, a new trend in biblical scholarship took hold. The tide began to turn and it was realized that "to read the Bible in a merely historical manner, as one would read any other book, was to miss the point altogether." Now it began to read as an urgent message to individual men and women.

This changed attitude to the Bible came in the nick of time. No one knows what would have happened to the churches of Europe and Europe itself, otherwise, it had taken a firm hold of the minds of men in Germany in time to hold the line against even "Mein Kampf" and its public ridicule by the Nazis.

Appreciation of the Bible today increases sometimes it appears in strange places. Refugees in D.P. camps around the world recognize the fact that most of their help comes from the churches. Although many come from non-Christian backgrounds, they recognize the Bible to be the inspiration of their benefactors and are asking the Bible societies for copies for themselves.

Suggested Bible readings for the week: Sunday: Deut. 30: 15-20; Monday, Mark 9: 1-29; Tuesday, Mark 9: 30-50; Wednesday, Mark 10: 1-27; Thursday, Mark 10: 28-52; Friday, 1 Cor. 4: 1-21; Saturday, 1 Cor. 11: 17-34.

Ways of Avoiding Farm Fires Discussed by Halton Forums

Fire on the farm, a very timely topic, was the subject discussed in Farm Radio Forum last Monday evening, November 7.

Probably no other word in the English language fills one with horror and apprehension as much as the call, Fire! The Halton Farm Forum groups all reported some farm fires in their locality during the past year.

In many cases, farm fires are the result of carelessness. Many means of preventing them were suggested, namely: More and better inspection of electrical wiring and equipment; be sure hay is properly dried before storing; store gasoline away from main buildings and never fill the tractor while it is running; keep chimneys, stoves and furnaces clean; store matches in a safe place out of reach of children and never leave children alone in the house; there should be no smoking in barns and all smokers should be very careful of matches, cigarette butts, etc.

All groups recommended having fire extinguishers handy in case of fire. Don't get panicky. Fast action coupled with intelligence is required. Salt or baking soda is sometimes effective in controlling a fire around the kitchen range. A good supply of water near the buildings is great protection and wells may be supplemented with water from farm ponds.

Most groups reporting felt the rural people of Halton were very fortunate to have the services of different fire brigades operated by town firemen. Be prepared—keep their telephone number beside your telephone.

AT THE Churches

- UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**
Acton, Ontario
Rev. Gordon Adams, M.A., B.D., Minister
Parsonage—29 Bower Avenue
Phone 60
Mr. George Elliott,
Organist and Choir Leader
76 Bower Ave., Acton, phone 6
- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27th, 1955**
9.55 a.m.—Church School.
9.50 a.m.—Junior Church.
11.15 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7.00 p.m.—We worship in the Anglican church.
- THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA**
St. Alban's Church, Acton, Ont.
Rev. Evan H. Jones, B.A., L.Th., Rector
- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27th, 1955**
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
8.30 a.m.—Corporate Communion and breakfast for men and boys. Bishop will broadcast to the men of the Diocese at 9.30 a.m.
10.00 a.m.—Church School.
11.00 a.m.—Beginners' Class.
11.00 a.m.—Morning Prayer.
4.30 p.m.—Holy Baptism.
7.00 p.m.—Annual Masonic Church Service. Walker Lodge No. 321, A. F. and A. M.
- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA**
KNOX CHURCH, ACTON
REV. ROBERT H. ARMSTRONG, M.A., B.D., Minister
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27th, 1955
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7.00 p.m.—Evening Service in the Anglican church.
- BAPTIST CHURCH ACTON**
Ray H. Costerus, Pastor
Parsonage, 115 Bower Ave.
Phone 206w
- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27th, 1955**
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7.00 p.m.—Evening Service in the Anglican church.
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Mid-week Service.
- ACTON PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY**
Meeting in L.O.L. Hall Crewson's Corners.
Pastor: Rev. K. J. Reid,
81 Cook St. Telephone 649w.
- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27th, 1955**
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7.50 p.m.—Evangelistic Service.
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Cottage prayer meeting and Bible study.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

BACK IN 1905
Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, November 23, 1905.
The event of the fall term of the High School is the annual concert and each succeeding year seems to add to the interest. The program is pleasing and instructive. There was ample manifestation that the large audience fully appreciated the efforts of principal Stewart and those associated with him. Rev. Barker was a skillful presiding officer. Mr. H. P. Moore, secretary of the Board of Education, presented the diplomas to the students who were successful in the Entrance and Departmental examinations. Miss Jessie Nicklin sang with more than her usual sweetness and volume. Bandmaster Mason and his twin sisters played a piano duet with cornet accompaniment. The glee club executed a difficult and patriotic chorus. Misses Nicklin, Holmes, Graham and McKinnon sang a quartette, There's Peace in the Deep. The exhibition of club swinging by nine young ladies showed grace. Miss Laura Gray was the talented accompanist of the evening.

BACK IN 1935
Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, November 28, 1935.
Nominations in Acton this year were the quietest in years and elections will be a minus quantity for all offices. The nomination meeting on Friday night had an attendance of 25 to 30 and when nominations closed at 8.30 the following had been entered for municipal offices: reeve, C. H. Harris; council, A. Mason, F. J. McCutcheon, Dr. E. J. Nelson, J. E. McMillan; public utilities commission, John McClure, R. J. Kerr, C. M. Hansen; school trustees, Dr. F. W. Pearen, Dr. A. J. Buchanan, J. M. McDonald; Commissioner B. G. Arnold was chosen to act as chairman for the meeting.

A capacity house was on hand on Thursday for the finals in the Hockey Club's amateur nights. In fact, it was beyond capacity and after packing all possible in, many were turned away. Winner was the "Big Broadcast" with Gordon Cook, Jack Reid and Charles Kirkness; second, Mrs. J. J. Stewart, elocutionary number and third, Frances Chisholm, vocal solo. In the special prize classes, Mrs. Wm. Hall won the first in the class for oldest contestant recommended; the quartette of Messrs. G. Masales, N. Gibson, T. Clifford and G. Simpson won the prize for quartettes. Early sister won the specialty number prize; Betty Gibson and Billie Vincent carried off the honors for the youngest contestants.

The new shower baths for the hockey dressing rooms in the arena are now being installed.

Intimation that radio licenses are to be abolished will come as welcome news. It was just another of the nuisance levies that proved very unpopular and rather difficult to collect.

With Intermediate and Junior O.H.A. hockey scheduled for Acton arena this year, it looks like hockey for every fancy of every fan.

Halton farmers were prominent among the livestock exhibitors at the Royal Winter Fair with horses and fruit.

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
- DR. ROBERT D. BUCKNER
Physician and Surgeon
39 Wellington St., Acton, Ont.
Phone 679
Office Hours 6-8 p.m.
- DENTAL**
DR. A. J. BUCHANAN
Dental Surgeon
Office—Leishman Block, Mill St
Office Hours—9 a.m. to 5 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
- OPTICAL**
E. L. BUCHNER, R.O.
Optometrist
48 Mill St. E. Phone 115
Office Hours
Wednesdays only: 1.30 - 6.00 p.m.
Wednesday evenings by appointment.
- VETERINARY**
F. G. OAKES, B.V. Sc.
Veterinarian
Office and Residence—24 Knox Av.
Acton—Phone 130
- B. D. YOUNG, B.V.Sc.
C. L. YOUNG, D.V.M.
Veterinary Surgeons
Office: Brookville, Ontario
Phone—Milton 168r21
- REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE**
F. L. WRIGHT
20 Wilbur St.
Acton, Ontario
Phone 95
Appraiser, Real Estate and Insurance
- W. R. BRACKEN
Real Estate Insurance
Phone 28 Acton
List your farms, business or home with us. We invite you to use our facilities in securing a purchase for your property.
- R. F. BEAN LIMITED
Real Estate and Insurance
83 MILL ST., ACTON
Phone 585
- LEGAL**
C. F. LEATHERLAND
Barrister & 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
- LEVER & HOSKIN
Chartered Accountants
51 Main St. N. 44 Victoria St. Toronto
Brampton Phone: 2478 EM 4-6131
- M. E. MANDERSON B.A.
Barrister, Solicitor and Notary Public
77 Mill St. Phone 585
Office Hours
Tuesday 1-5 p.m.; Thursday 1-5 p.m.
Georgetown office by appointment
4 Main St. S.; phone T.R.I.A.N.G.L.E. 7-2464
- MISCELLANEOUS**
RUMLEY FUNERAL HOME
Heated Ambulance
Phone 699 night or day
Serving the community for 46 years
- OLIVE M. LAMPARD
A.T.C.M., R.M.T.
Teacher of Piano
ACTON STUDIO
St. Alban's Parish Hall
14 PARK AVE. GUELPH
Phone 296
- 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.; 5.08 p.m.; 6.33 p.m.; 8.33 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.
- 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 11.44 p.m.; Daily except Sunday 8.48 a.m.; 6.55 p.m. (flag-stop); 7.49 p.m.; Saturday only 2.22 p.m.; Sunday only 9.43 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 6.19 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. Flyer at Guelph 6.36 p.m.