


The Acton Free Press
The only paper ever published in Acton.



Founded in 1875 and published every Thursday at 55 Mill St. E., Acton, Ont. Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations, the C.W.N.A. and the Ontario-Quebec Division of the C.W.N.A. Advertising rates on request. Subscriptions payable in advance. \$2.50 in Canada; \$3.50 in the United States; six months \$1.50; single copies 6c. Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

Published by the
Dills Printing and Publishing Co. Limited
G. A. Dills, Editor-in-Chief
David R. Dills, Production Manager
James Dills, John Black, Associate Editors
Business and Editorial Office - Ph. 174 Acton

Christmas Music

One of the warmest traditions of Christmas is the Christmas carol. People have been singing carols for nearly 2,000 years but they perhaps have a wider appeal now than ever before.

The first carol was heard by the shepherds in the fields 1,955 years ago when "suddenly there was with the Angel a multitude of the Heavenly Host praising God and saying:

"Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace, good will to men."

The older carols forever hold their place, but it is noteworthy how carols of high popularity have been written in comparatively recent times.

And behind the newest carols are some of the best-known, which are of practically modern vintage. "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" was written by Charles Wesley, younger brother of John, who died in 1788. John Byrom, English poet who died in 1763, wrote "Christmas Awake," and "White Shepherds Watched" was written by Nahum Tate, Irish poet who died in 1715. He, however, put words to a tune that dates from 1592.

The word-carol comes from the Italian carole, meaning to sing and dance in a ring, and dancing and singing were part of the religious festivities long before Christ.

They all have one thing in common, to praise God and give thanks for the blessing of the Saviour's appearance on earth.

Joyous Christmas Everyone

Once again that glorious season of Christmas-tide comes to a climax on Sunday when all the planning and the secrecy of the month or more before is revealed. When all the messages of good will have been opened. When sometimes greetings are communicated between friends which may not have been exchanged since a year ago.

Marking the birthday of Christ, it is a birthday when all the world participates in giving; when the people of all tongues and nations sound messages of good will. It is always a pleasure to take part in this world-wide exchange of good will.

So your editor and the staff join with the multitude in wishing all our readers, many friends and in fact everyone the very merriest Christmas for 1955. For the many things which have brought joy throughout the year in the office of your home town paper we who have had guidance take this opportunity to extend our good will.

To Eliminate the "Gimmies"

The Gordon commission would be doing a real service to the country if it could come up with some suggestions on how governments might reallocate sources of taxes so that they may get sufficient revenues to carry out the tasks each level of government, federal, provincial and municipal, is best fitted to carry out efficiently and economically.

It would be a godsend to this country if we could only get away from this constant screaming for more, more, more—this business of the cities accusing the provinces, the provinces accusing the Dominion, of being niggardly and selfish.

We're not sure politicians would like a reformed fiscal system. It would leave smaller room for excuses and alibis. It would not then be possible for Mr. Bennett, say, to excuse his acts of omission by crying that he hasn't the money, Ottawa has it all.

There are some spheres of public investment, no doubt, where it is advisable for various levels of government to participate jointly. These areas should be better defined. The whole search should be for a formula of taxation that would make it more difficult for politicians to pull the wool over people's eyes. —Vancouver Sun.

Students Spending in Cities

Canada's high school students have an average \$5.93 pocket money weekly, but put nearly \$2 a week into savings. These are among the findings of a continuing survey of youth spending and product preferences appearing in the business newspaper Marketing.

Boys in the 16-19 age group are the most lavish spenders, according to the survey. Soft drinks, cigarettes, taking girls on dates and other day-to-day expenditures account for \$6.17 of their total weekly income of \$9.27. The remaining \$3.10 goes into savings for Christmas presents, vacations and other major items. Girls in the same age group find soft drinks, candy, cosmetics and other daily "necessities" absorb \$5.40 of their weekly \$7.60. Savings account for \$2.20.

Taking in the complete age range covered by Marketing's survey, 12 to 19, boys are in the highest weekly income bracket, with an average \$6.61. The girls have to be satisfied with \$5.24.

More boys than girls earn part or all of their income—34 per cent. of boys are entirely dependent on part-time jobs, such as newspaper routes, working in supermarkets, for their spending money, compared with 15 per cent. of the girls. Those both receiving an allowance and earning money range from 24 per cent. for boys to 18 per cent. for girls. However, 42 per cent. of boys and 67 per cent. of girls rely entirely on their allowances.

Ratio of earnings to allowance rises as students get older and the independence this brings is reflected in the figures collected on students' shopping habits.

We should mention, of course, that the survey was based on 600 interviews in Toronto, Montreal and Edmonton and was made by Canadian High News exclusively for Marketing.

The Ministerial Association of Acton

is pleased to have this opportunity of wishing our people

All the Blessings of a Joyous Christmas

We invite you to join the millions of Christians around the world who will celebrate the birthday of the Christ child by worshipping Him in the Church of their choice.

- Gordon S. J. Adams, M.A., B.D. The United Church of Canada
- Robert H. Armstrong, M.A., B.D. The Presbyterian Church in Canada
- Ray H. Costerus The Baptist Church
- Roelef Groeneboer, M.A., B.D. The Christian Reformed Church
- Evan H. Jones, B.A., L.Th. The Anglican Church of Canada
- Kenneth J. Reid The Pentecostal Assembly

The Bible Today

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

Tibet is one of the strangest places the Bible has penetrated. Currently it is reported that Red Chinese soldiers are using copies of the Tibetan Bible for the purpose of learning the language of the country. They are doing so because it is one of the few books available there. They read it with the Chinese Bible and compare the written forms.

The story of the translating of the Tibetan Bible has the marks of a suspense thriller. Its beginning can be traced back to the murder of the Dalai Lama, head of the State, in 1858. His political advisor was under suspicion. He was in danger of being sewn up in the skin of a Yak and thrown down a deep ravine. Gregan (his name) was a well educated and cultured man. He migrated into Kashmir for safety and settled there.

Two missionaries who had travelled for 2 1/2 years across India finally reached this remote valley. He became their teacher and helped in translating the Tibetan Bible by 1882 the Gospel of St. John was finished. Gregan died in 1890 with the great task unfinished.

His small son had become intrigued by the book with which his father worked. Early this boy became a Christian. He became an authority in his native language in its best classical form as well as an

authority in English, Urdu, Kashmiri and other Indian languages. The British government offered him a lucrative post, but he refused them all saying: "No, I have given my life to the Lord Jesus Christ to serve Him. Since His messengers are not allowed to go to my people, I will devote myself to translating the Bible, so that it can have legs and go into Tibet and preach to them."

Beginning his labors at the age of 23, Heseb Gregan, the son, toiled until he was 50 when, with missionary help, he had completed the whole Bible. Before this tremendous task had been finished, and the Bible published just over two years ago he had risked his life in treacherous mountain passes, and through war infested areas of the East. His travels took him through mountain passes to 114 degrees of heat, all to carry his precious manuscript, on foot much of the way, to where they could be sent to the British and Foreign Bible Society in London for printing. This translation is now in its second edition.

Suggested Bible readings for the week: Sunday, Ps. 39: 1-13; Monday, Ps. 84: 1-12; Tuesday, Ps. 85: 1-13; Wednesday, Ps. 112: 1-10; Thursday, Isa. 1: 1-18; Friday, Isa. 2: 1-5; Saturday, Deut. 30: 1-14.

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

Christmas Eve in the church at 8:00 p.m.—Carols by candlelight. The choir.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25th, 1955
10:00 a.m.—Children's Service in story and song.
11:00 a.m.—Christmas Communion.

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA
St Alban's Church, Acton, Ont.
Rev. Evan H. Jones, B.A., L.Th., Rector

CHRISTMAS EVE
Saturday, December 24
8:30 p.m.—Festival Choral Communion.

CHRISTMAS DAY
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25th, 1955
9:30 a.m.—Choral Communion. No Sunday School on Christmas Day.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
Rockwood, Ont.
CHRISTMAS DAY
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25th, 1955
11:00 a.m.—Festival Choral Communion.

Every Communicant member of the church should make Christmas one of the times in the year when he makes his Communion. Let us all kneel at the Lord's Table on His Birthday.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

BACK IN 1905
Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, December 21, 1905

The fire on Sunday night removed the last landmark of long ago days from the G.T.R. station when the freight shed was burned. The fire alarm sounded at five minutes after eight and all the congregations in town were unceremoniously dismissed and without much benediction. The fire brigade was able to confine the blaze to the building.

Under the pseudonym of Maxo de la Roche, a talented young lady residing in town contributed a pretty French Canadian story entitled "The Secret of the River" to the last number of the Short Story magazine.

On Friday evening last the children and grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hemstreet gathered at their home in Milton to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their wedding. Mr. Hemstreet, who is a brother of William Hemstreet of Acton, was born in the state of New York in 1819 and came with his parents to Trafalgar in 1823, to the farm on which he resided until retiring a few years ago.

Three incendiary fires in this community within a week. There is room for some detective work here.

Principal Stewart received the sad news of the death of his mother at Bluevale.

Mrs. John Agnew was a delegate to the Women's Institute convention in Guelph last week.

Landlord McGibbon of the Clark House, Georgetown, is ill with typhoid fever.

Among those home for the holidays are Mr. E. J. Moore from Victoria University, Mr. Will Dawson of Winnipeg, Mr. Park Dills, Miss Daisy Nicklin, Mr. John Arthur of Winnipeg, Miss Ida McNabb from Chicago, Miss Sam Laird of Prairie du Chene, Wis. and Mrs. G. Marwick and Miss Alberta of Medicine Hat.

Parents whose children absent themselves from school are liable to a fine for truancy.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

MEDICAL
DR. W. G. C. KENNEY
Physician and Surgeon
Office in Symon Block,
434 Mill St. E., Acton
Office Phone 78
Residence 115 Church St. E.
Phone 150

DR. D. A. GARRETT
Physician and Surgeon
Corridor of Willow and River Sts
Entrance River Street
Acton, Ontario
Phone 235

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—Leshman Block, Mill St
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

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 165r21

REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE
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Last year's business of home with us. We invite you to use our facilities in securing a purchase for your property.

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83 MILL ST. ACTON
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BACK IN 1935
Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, December 24, 1935

With a good coating of ice in the arena, that centre is in full swing. The boxing and wrestling ring at the Y.M.C.A. is quite popular these evenings.

The Free Press is published on Tuesday this week with four pages. Sale of one cent postage stamps at the post office on Monday was \$480.

Pupils of Acton High School, teachers and friends, gathered last Thursday evening at the town hall, where the annual "At Home" was the feature. The premier attraction was dancing with music by Ardy Frank's six-piece orchestra. The play "Kidnapping Belty" was a delightful presentation.

During the evening, Principal MacRae was remembered by the rugby team with the presentation of a gift on their behalf, by Gerald Pargeter; Miss Mortimer by the basketball team, presented by Esther Taylor, and Miss Bell by the baseball team, presented by Kay Chapman.

On Sunday evening, at the service of the United Church, the cantata, "The Christmas King," was presented. It was under the direction of the choirmaster, Bert Mason, with special parts taken by Miss Ruth Gibson, Mrs. J. K. Gardner, Mrs. H. F. Mowat, Mr. Dan Taylor, Mr. Ted Clifford and Mrs. J. C. Matthews. Miss Fern Brown and Mrs. R. Arnold played the accompaniments.

Last night, Christmas excitement broke out at Knox church in a burst of entertainment. A one act play of real beauty was put on by Mr. J. Hurst, Mrs. Deserault, Miss F. Hurst, Mr. J. Ross, Miss E. Orr, Mr. C. Kirkness and Mr. C. Henderson.

Wednesday evening last the annual Christmas tree and entertainment was held at the Baptist church.

Gasoline has dropped another cent a gallon. Roads have been splendid for both sleighing and wheeling.

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.
Brampton
Phones: 2478 EM 4-9131

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 Trianngle
7-2464

MISCELLANEOUS
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OLIVE M. LAMPARD
A.T.C.M., R.M.T.
Teacher of Piano
ACTON STUDIO
51 ALBAN'S PARISH HALL
14 PARK AVE., GUELPH
Phone 296

TRAVELLERS' GUIDE
GRAY COACH LINES
COACHES LEAVE ACTON
Eastbound
6:30 a.m. 8:58 a.m. 11:33 a.m.
2:08 p.m. 5:08 p.m.; 6:33 p.m.; 8:29 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
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 1:14 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 detrain passengers from West Toronto and beyond 8:10 p.m.; Daily except Sat. nd Sun. Flyer at Guelph 6:36 p.m.