

The Acton Free Press
The only paper ever published in Acton

CANADIAN WEEKLY
NEWSPAPERS ASSOCIATION

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All Different—All Similar

Most every week we see 30 or 40 weekly newspapers that come from various parts of Canada. It's a week-end habit which has developed over the years. It's surprising how much in common there is in Canada's smaller centres and how similar are the problems in large and small communities. Sure, we are different from what they are in the west or the east, but a pattern runs through the whole country.

Last week every town has had its new councils and boards taking office. Like this year's resolutions their plans are put forth in keeping with community's interest. There's the common ground of growth and the equally important item of watching finances. Not all of these plans will be achieved but to the progressive places some of them will become realities before the term ends. Some of these hopes may take years to bear fruit but the visions of the present are the realities of the future.

Later in the year the towns will be all grappling with tax problems and acquiring the funds to meet the demands of the citizens. As the year progresses, there will be more problems develop that weren't even anticipated at year's beginning. These are not scattered cases but those who grapple with them may find some consolation in the fact that they are not alone. The failures of other year's plans may come to fruition under their guidance and the disappointments of the endeavors of their year in office may be fulfilled in the years to follow.

The Trend Is Modern

Every so often we hear a lament for the old-fashioned country store. Some fellow over 60 years old would like to browse around a shopping spot where they have dry goods on one side and groceries on the other. They yearn for that aroma of old cheese, vinegar, onions and salt fish combining with the smell of fresh prints and gingham. To give the right atmosphere there must be a pot-bellied heater in the centre of the store to make it the common forum.

Well, for those who crave these spots rather than the big shopping centres, they are still to be found. We saw one not 75 miles from here the other day. The store was on the main street of a fair-sized village and even had the wooden verandah over the sidewalk. The box of frozen fish was outside as proof that there was no deep-freeze inside. If you really want to see these stores of earlier days you can find them dotted all over the countryside and still making a livelihood.

Funny part is though that you'll find the crowd in the big modern store further down the street and the biggest armloads of purchases coming from the spots that are more in present day trend. Most shoppers must be under 60.

One of the Great

January 17th is the 250th anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin. He was one of the most remarkable and versatile men of this continent. His first job was at the age of ten, as an apprentice candle-maker in his father's soap-boiling shop at Boston. Two years later he was apprenticed as a printer to his brother, James. It was in the printing-house that he got his chance to read widely, to write and to think. As a young man he started a successful newspaper and produced many essays and almanacs. In his subsequent career he achieved fame not only as a master-printer, writer, philosopher, businessman and statesman, but also as a scientific investigator. For his researches in electricity he became known all over the civilized world and was loaded with honors. He served for several years as the U.S. Minister to France and in 1782 was one of the signers of the Treaty of Independence. He died in 1790, leaving an autobiography which takes high rank for its interest and literary power.

Could almost start anytime to sum up the accuracy of the predictions about this year's winter. Might as well get them checked before spring forecasts come up. We know one group of forecasters we wouldn't hire.

Horsepower Confusion

Perhaps the urge for more horsepower, and more cylinders in motor cars will be curbed by the new scale of license fees which has been upped quite materially for engines of over 35 horsepower. It is quite apparent that more power and speed are now built into cars than the average motorist knows how to use. The question, Why pay for non-essentials?

Recent statistics show that 70 per cent. of Canada's motor accidents are caused by driver error. An analysis of driver error shows that 46 per cent. of the accidents are attributable to speed; 19 per cent. on wrong side of the road; 15 per cent. to recklessness; eight per cent. to no right of way; seven per cent. off road and five per cent. to other causes. In Pennsylvania and Manitoba, where strict enforcement was put into effect, figures prove that accidents can be decreased. Where strict enforcement has been tried on highway traffic laws, without fear or favor, results have shown that Ontario can have a better safety record.

One of the confusing things about automobile power is its ability to confuse. In rating a car for license purposes the Department lists fees for cars up to 35 horsepower. There is hardly a car listed by a manufacturer today that describes a car of less than 200 horsepower and they range in claims to over 300 horsepower engines. It's all very simple to explain in mechanical terms, but why so many kinds of horses have to have rating in a mechanical apparatus is beyond us. We've read enough fall fair prize lists and auction sale bills, to realize the difference for ponies, saddle horses, hackneys, Percherons Belgians, Clydesdales and such categories. But we've always understood that a horsepower rating was a mathematical rating. It might clarify the public confusion if the motor-manufacturers referred to their standard as pony power and the Department of Highways in their licensing as Clydesdale horsepower. We rural folks would at least understand then the difference between 35 and 205 h.p.

For The Biggest Cavern

The Ottawa Journal published this item below and we reprint it for the merit it may have and the thinking it might provoke.

"We see by our favorite newspaper that the world's largest known cave has been discovered in Kentucky. This could be put to interesting uses, and many will come to every mind.

"Space could be found for television performers who think cuteness is wit, and for TV 'artists' who drag in their families under the bright lights.

"Far in the innermost recesses of the cave we should place people who whistle in trains, young reporters who write of 'aged' men and women in their 50's, plump women who wear slacks in public places, automobile drivers who think only a sissy signals a turn, youngsters who sit comfortably in street car or bus while women with baby or parcel stand.

"The Kentucky cave could accommodate in addition to all these, politicians who talk of the irreplacability of any public man, and alongside they would stand store clerks who recommend a tie or a hat as 'the very kind I wear myself', the sweet young things who leave lipstick stains on restaurant teacups, and dashing young men who comb their hair over the lunch counter—all these and many others never would be missed.

"And still there would be room in this most enormous of caves for the family portraits that used to decorate every living room piano, for every last statue of a naked woman with a clock in her stomach, for the atrocities in china and glass which infest such vacation resorts at Niagara Falls, N.Y.

"And room at last for the good resolutions made and discarded when they cool off."

Brief Comment

Drive slowly in built-up areas. You've no right to splash mud in any pedestrian's eye.

All our precautions against fires and all our safety building regulations seem to leave much to be achieved if the loss of life and property is to be reduced.

Slick salesmen with doubtful merchandise are trying these days as always to make a fast dollar. Better investigate before you invest. Beware too of cashing cheques for strangers.

One thing that the assumption of responsibility demands is the ability to think clearly. In this education plays a vital role. Its task is... to train the mind, to develop the God-given right of every man and woman to think as an individual. —Trenton (Ont.) Courier-Advocate.

In the soap-and-detergent sales race, detergents are getting the lead. Last year there was more soap sold in total, but detergent production rose seven per cent. while soap output fell nine per cent. compared with 1953. In 1954 detergent output was 122 million pounds, valued at \$32 millions; soap production, 165 million pounds, worth \$36 millions.



THESE CURIOUS CATS, having come to some agreement that two can sit on the top of the post as well as one, are raply attentive to something; or other; they might be looking for spring, a free meal, the neighbor's dog or a low flying sparrow. Whatever it is, they don't seem to realize that the camera is looking as intently at them.

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

The structure of the scriptures has been of great interest to Bible lovers for centuries. Perhaps this is why we have inherited a quantity of unique detail not available on any other book.

Many amazing facts about the physical composition of the "Book of Books" are known.

The Bible is comprised of 3,556,480 letters, 778,693 words, 31,102 verses, 1,189 chapters and 66 books. The middle verse is Psalm 118: 8. The 21st verse of the Seventh Chapter of Ezra contains all the letters of the alphabet except "J".

The longest word is in Isaiah 8: 1 — "Maher-shalhash-baz." The word "Lord" occurs 1,855 times and the word "and" 46,277 times. 180 direct quotations from the Old Testament are found in the New Testament.

The Old Testament contains 39 books classified. They are five books of the Law, 12 of History, five of poetry and 17 of prophecy. The New Testament consists of 27 books. Here there are four records of the life of Christ called the "Gospels".

Trafalgar Population Increases to 11,846

Trafalgar's population in the last three months of 1955 increased by 448 to a new high of 11,846. Assessment Commissioner Ed Dunham told Trafalgar council last week.

The rateable assessment total at year's end was \$31,370,685. Ward 3, in which is the Ford, Oakville plant, accounted for 40 per cent. of the total, with ward 5, east of Oakville, producing another 27.5 per cent.

The figures indicate that farming has slipped badly, to second place

in Trafalgar's economy. For farm assessment is \$5,219,100, or 16.63 per cent., compared to \$9,614,175 industrial or 30.65 per cent. of the total. The ideal 60-40 ratio is pretty well maintained, as residential assessment accounts for 48 per cent. of the total, whereas the danger point is 60 per cent.

The pulp and paper industry spends more on protection than the provincial governments, the owners of the forests. The mills have a greater investment in fire fighting equipment than the provinces. They have built fire towers and invested in access roads to aid in fire prevention.

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, JANUARY 22nd, 1956
9:50 a.m.—Junior Church.
9:55 a.m.—Church School.
11:15 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Prayer in Knox Church. Y.M.C.A. service. Speaker, Dr. R. S. Hosking.
Annual Congregational Meeting, Wednesday, January 25 at 8 p.m.

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 1956
(3rd SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY)
9:00 a.m.—Holy Communion.
10:00 a.m.—Church School.
11:00 a.m.—Beginners' Class.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer and Sermon—Y.M.C.A. service in Knox Presbyterian church.

Quebec has the greatest freshwater area of all the provinces.

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 1956
11:00 a.m.—Morning Service.
9:45 a.m.—Church School.
7:00 p.m.—Y.M.C.A. Service.
A Warm Welcome Awaits You
"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength."

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 1956
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service.
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Mid-week Service.
Mission Band will be meeting Monday instead of Friday this year.

ACTON PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY
Meeting in L.O.L. Hall, Crewson's Corners.
Pastor: Rev. K. J. Reid.
81 Cook St. Telephone 540

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 1956
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7:40 p.m.—Evangelistic Service.
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Cottage prayer meeting and Bible study.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

BACK IN 1906

From the Issue of the Free Press of Thursday, January 17, 1906

Three years ago when the war between Russia and Japan was at its height, Morris Saxe, a strapping young Russian soldier of 21, was among the troops sent to the front. After enduring the hardships of war and being out of sympathy with Russia, he deserted with some comrades, crossed to China and from there to England. Realizing death would be the penalty if he returned, he came to Canada. When he left Russia, he bade goodbye to his sweetheart thinking never to see her again, the fortunes of war always being so uncertain. However, he contacted her and she arrived in Canada last week. On Wednesday a Hebrew minister made them man and wife, and they plan to live in Acton.

There will be next week in the town hall a unique entertainment put on by the young ladies of St. Alban's Anglican church. It will be a spinsters' tea. The young ladies will observe certain rules, and any young man found talking tea with his right hand, passing anything or making remarks will be fined five cents for each offense.

Twenty-five or thirty cars of hemlock bark are coming in regularly at present. "Milton's new town council is composed of a doctor, a druggist, a saddler, a school inspector, a veterinary surgeon, a brick manufacturer, a gentleman and a flour and feed merchant." The Milton Reformer. Well, well! Only one gentleman among them.

George B. Thompson has been appointed assessor of Esquewaug township at a salary of \$150. Passable sleighing again. Turnips are being loaded here in great quantities. No fear for the failure of the ice crop.

PLUCKY TRAVELLER
Sidney, B.C. (CP) Miss H. M. Williams, who crawled two and a half hours down a logging trail after breaking her leg in a fall from her bicycle, is recovering. A motorist picked her up just as she was losing consciousness.

BACK IN 1936

From the Issue of the Free Press of Thursday, January 23, 1936

King George V, ruler of 500,000,000 subjects in the far-flung British Empire, died on Monday night, the 25th year, eighth month, 14th day and 24th hour of his reign. With the last heartbeat, Edward, Prince of Wales, became king, although the official proclamation was not made immediately.

When news came on Monday Acton joined in special tribute to his memory. Social functions of various orders, already arranged, were promptly cancelled. The Canadian Legion have arranged the service.

At council a letter was presented from the resident engineer at Durham to the effect that no money would be paid by the department for clearing snow from the highway through town. The streets and walks committee was instructed to clear the snow from the roadway and curb and part of Mill St. as an experiment. If the cost is not prohibitive, the business section will be cleared. The work is to be done by relief labour.

Mr. James R. Anderson, who has been caretaker of Acton Post Office since the erection of the new building over 20 years ago, has been granted absence from his position due to illness. Mr. Cameron Leishman, a returned soldier, has been appointed to fill the position. Mr. Leishman is a young man and will very ably fill this position.

The Junior Hockey club held an amateur show in the town hall. One of the highlights was "Alexander's Rattling Band" with Jack McGeachie, Jack Reid, Bus Morton, Theo Gibbons, Ted Harrop, "Pete" McNabb, Jim McGeachie, Bus Nicol, Bill Harrop and Ted Clifford. Gordon Cook was the conductor of this noise-making outfit.

From 8 to 14 below were the reports on last night's temperature.

A letter to the editor decries the loudspeaker at the arena as "a new fangled arrangement" replacing the band.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

MEDICAL
DR. W. G. C. KENNEY
Physician and Surgeon
Office in Syon 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 6 p.m.
X-RAY
Telephone 448

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.
Wednesdays by appointment

VETERINARY
F. G. OAKES, B.V. Sc.
Veterinarian
Office and Residence—24 Knox Ave.
Acton—Phone 130

B. D. YOUNG, B.V. Sc.
C. L. YOUNG, D.V.M.
Veterinary Surgeons
Office: Brookville, Ontario
Phone—Milton TR 8-177

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 26 Acton
List your farms, business or house with us. We invite you to use our facilities in securing a purchaser for your property.

R. F. BEAN LIMITED
Real Estate and Insurance
83 MILL ST., ACTON
Phone 585

LEGAL
C. F. LEATHERLAND, Q.C.
Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public
Office Hours: 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.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 Triangle 7-2464

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Phone 699 night or day
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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.; 11:53 a.m.; 2:00 p.m.; 5:06 p.m.; 6:33 p.m.; 8:35 p.m.; 10:06 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.).
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. (Fri., Sat., Sun. and Hol.).

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS
Standard Time
Eastbound
Daily 6:40 a.m.; Daily except Sunday 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 11:44 p.m.; Daily except Sunday 8:48 a.m.; 8:55 p.m. (flag stop); 7:40 p.m.; Saturday only 12:32 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 6:10 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. Flyer at Guelph 6:38 p.m.