


The Acton Free Press
The only paper ever published in Acton



Founded in 1875 and published every Thursday at 56 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, \$3.00 in Canada, \$4.00 in the United States; six months \$17.50; single copies 7c. Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

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

Rural Safe Driving Week

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture is sponsoring a "Rural Safe Driving Week," February 20th to 25th, 1956. Attorney General Kelso Roberts said recently, "Each of the County Federations of Agriculture are co-operating and will be holding meetings during that week at which representatives of the Ontario Provincial Police will be present and will participate. This constitutes the type of co-operation in the safety drive which is so essential if the problem is to be solved on anything approaching a satisfactory basis," Mr. Roberts commented.

The Attorney General said that the O.F.A. drive was a part of the province's safety campaign which has been termed "Operation Live."

"The people of the Province of Ontario must endorse and support all the time this continuing drive to assure success in road safety," the Attorney General said. "It is all the more important because every one of us has a personal interest in seeing it succeed—any one of us may suffer irreparable personal injuries or even death by failing to give that support and in our daily actions conforming to the requirements for safety on the highways."

Leap Year Meant Something

Yes, girls, there was a day when Leap Year meant something, matrimonially speaking.

The idea that one year in four the ladies are free to propose marriage is not a gag dreamed up by jokesters no matter how humorously it strikes the 20th century imagination. Actually there was a law enacted in 1288, upon the statute books of Scotland, clearly establishing this traditional belief. In liberal translation from the Scottish dialect, it reads:

"It is a statute and ordained that during the reign of her blessed Majesty, in every year known as leap year, any maiden lady of both high and low degree shall have liberty to propose to the man she likes. Should he refuse to take her as his lawful wife, he shall be fined a sum of one pound or less, according to his estate, except he can prove that he is betrothed to another woman, when he shall go free."

This law takes away from men the right—if it ever was there—to propose marriage and it temporarily becomes the prerogative of the female sex. Why this should have been so is uncertain. But perhaps it meant something in the old days when women were shrinking violets and dared not initiate a proposal. At least we read this sort of thing happened at various stages of history and in the Victorian era. Probably even with the arrival of leap year, the customs in proposals was not altered very much.

In fact, woman is still the pursued during courting, and leap year or not, it would not be wise for the ladies to be too active in their proposals. The male ego must be saved and the easiest way of doing this is by playing hard to get.

These random February thoughts are offered for what they are worth—and frankly we do not think they are worth much.—Owen Sound Sun-Times.

Individual Importance

An important and desirable change has just been made in our immigration policy, says the Financial Post. Now we are going after promising people and not determining eligibility for entry solely by occupation.

For some years, for instance, a man's chances of getting into Canada were greatly affected by whether he was a member of a particular trade (e.g., carpenter) in which, according to the cumbersome workings of our statistical machinery, we were said to have a shortage.

The truth, of course, is that what we are really concerned with is not whether a man is a carpenter but whether he has the guts and the adaptability to become a good enterprising Canadian.

We're really looking for people who seek opportunity and the people who want merely security aren't what we should be after at all.

Diversified People

After several years of operation of three high school districts in Halton county a Consultative Committee has been set up to give study to the whole problem. We recall that back in the years previous to high school-districts in Halton there were committees and many meetings to study the matter. We recall many of the obstacles that had to be surmounted before the whole county accepted the plan.

Down in Smiths Falls there is one of the finest Collegiate in the province. It's a beautiful, modern building, splendidly equipped and with a big enrolment but it is not maintained by a high school district. With ever rising educational costs study is being made to have three townships adjoining the town form a district. It's estimated the town would save \$13,800 in one year by having such a district. Under the district plan, provincial grants there would increase from the present \$61,056 to \$115,721. These and many other facts were laid before groups who were studying the problem in Smiths Falls.

Looking over the whole province the Department of Education certainly has a variety of problems. Here we have one part of the province making another study of the district plan after a few years of trial, while in another part the district plan is yet the goal to be reached.

We are a probing, inquiring restless sort of people in this province aren't we? It can also be observed that we are a financially conscious tribe, invariably striving to shift the costs of our wants onto other shoulders.

Guaranteed Annual Income

In view of the fact that installation of artificial ice in Acton arena is a question under consideration by various groups, it is advisable to give studious thought to the proposal from all angles. Acton is not alone in giving this matter some thought.

Over in Orangeville the Rotary Club have operated the arena for 17 years but the time has come when they feel artificial ice should be installed. The Rotary Club have accumulated a fund of \$8,000 for artificial ice. They have offered to give this fund to the town as a part payment on the \$35,000 necessary to make the installation.

In Smiths Falls the Lions Club have been operating the arena. Here artificial ice is installed. The club have asked the town for a grant of up to \$1,000 to help in maintenance. In making their appeal to Council in that town it was said other towns put up from \$1,000 to \$15,000 per year toward operation. The arena, it is stated, represents a capital investment of \$60,000 to the Lions Club.

Quoting from the Aurora Banner the editor notes, "Every week I scan about 90 weekly papers, the majority of them from Ontario points. And, in practically every instance where arenas are concerned, the story is the same. The rosy dreams have turned into financial nightmares."

From Durham we find "In the old Durham arena with natural ice, there often wasn't any. The Rotary Club kept the arena operating and the only assistance from the town was a rebate on taxes. Now Durham has a wonderful new arena with artificial ice and a big dance hall. Last year the town taxpayers kicked in more than \$8,000 (about eight mills) to meet debentures and pay off a deficit."

It is not our intention to in any way discourage any group who seek improvement for Acton and its young people. In earlier years we went to as many hockey games as anyone and enjoyed them all. In those years hockey was the only winter sport. When we look at the housetops today with television antennas on each and every home with two or three radios, we wonder if times haven't changed and are not quite so rugged. Maybe it's easier to get subsidized entertainment.

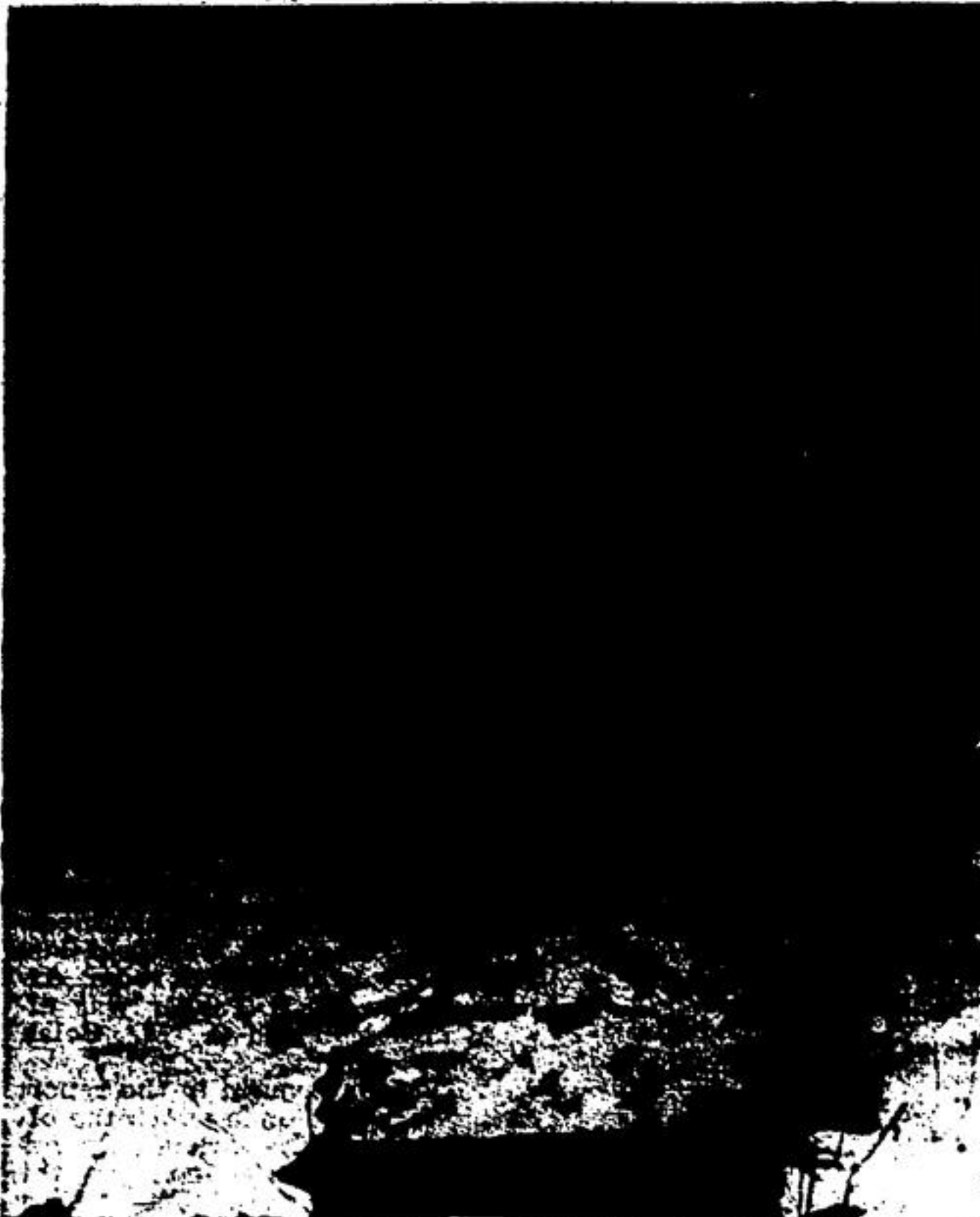
When we read reports on town arenas such as we have quoted above, the fact is borne out that something has chugged in the town life of Ontario. It's all very simple though if 400 people in Acton think the artificial ice is worth \$108 to each of them and then if the same 400 people having accomplished the first effort would guarantee to buy a ticket for every home game of all the teams the problem is solved. Apparently the arenas have to have the guaranteed annual wage as well as the initial capital investment.

Brief Comment

Another new association we have been invited to encourage is the Old Age Pensioners Association of Canada. Looking to the future, maybe that is where our efforts should be devoted.

Had an invitation recently to meet the members of the Gordon Commission, who are studying Canada's economic prospects. Couldn't make it because Canada's economic present still is quite vague in our thinking. We like to take things a day at a time.

It is said that teetotalers may soon be eligible for auto insurance at reduced rates. At the present rate, the new company is never liable to be a big company in Canada. Lower costs mean little to those with expensive tastes.



PLENTY OF SNOW this week, as few readers in this district need to be reminded! February is only 50 per cent. gone and there'll likely be ample opportunities yet to come upon scenes like this one, complete with that hung-grey overcast in the sky that is so characteristic of this time of year.

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

The Bamboo Curtain was drawn aside recently long enough for the world to get a glimpse of the life and progress of the Christian Church in China. Miss Janet Rees, a member of a delegation of the Society of Friends, which lately visited China, gave an encouraging report to the General Committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society this month.

Miss Rees offered tangible proof of the continued activity of the China Bible House in Shanghai when she presented to the Committee a red leather bound, finely printed copy of a Chinese pocket Bible. The 300,000 copies of this edition were proving insufficient to meet even local demands.

According to the delegate, three editions of the Chinese Bible have been printed during the past five years in that country now closed to western missionaries. A striking fact presented itself repeatedly during Miss Rees' tour. In every city visited, Christian activity entered about the study of the Bible. One of the main interests of the YMCA at Tientsin was its Bible Study Group. Each church had such a group in action.

There appeared to be freedom of worship in China, according to the report, and each Sunday the churches were crowded. Some week night services were also well attended. All such activities were strictly "religious" and did not impinge on politics however. While numbers of Bible circulation and use have filtered out of China from time to time, this is the first authoritative report backed by actual evidence brought out of the country by any western Christian group.

Suggested readings for the week: Sunday, Genesis 1: 1-31; Monday, Genesis 2: 1-25; Tuesday, Genesis 3: 1-24; Wednesday, Joel 2: 1-14; Thursday, Genesis 4: 1-16; Friday, Genesis 6: 1-22; Saturday, Joshua 1: 1-18.

AT THE Churches

- UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**
Acton, Ontario
Rev. Gordon Adams, M.A., B.D.
Parsonage—29 Bower Avenue
Phone 60
Mr. George Elliott,
Organist and Choir Leader,
76 Bower Ave., Acton, phone 6
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19th, 1956**
9:30 a.m.—Junior Church.
9:55 a.m.—Church School.
11:15 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Prayer.
- THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA**
St. Alban's Church, Acton, Ont.
Rev. Ewan H. Jones, B.A., L.Th.
Rector
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19th, 1956**
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
9:00 a.m.—Holy Communion.
9:45 a.m.—Church School.
11:00 a.m.—Beginner's Class.
11:00 a.m.—Choral Communion.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Prayer.
Special Lenten Service, Wednesday, February 22, 8 p.m.—Evening Prayer. Rector's address: "Pride."
- COYOTE ON ROOF**
CARROT RIVER, Sask. (CP) — A coyote, believed "tired" by the farm dog, was shot on the roof of a barn on Reg Neath's farm.
- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA**
KNOX CHURCH ACTON
REV. ROBERT H. ARMSTRONG
M.A., B.D., Minister
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19th, 1956**
9:45 a.m.—Church School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7:00 p.m.—Service conducted by the Daughters of Knox.
8:15 p.m.—Tea and farewell to Miss Ellen Anderson.
"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength."
- BAPTIST CHURCH ACTON**
Ray H. Cotterill, Pastor
Parsonage, 115 Bower Ave.
Phone 394w
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19th, 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.
- ACTON PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY**
Meeting in L.O.L. Hall, Crewson's Corners.
Pastor: Rev. K. J. Reid,
81 Cook St., Telephone 549w.
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19th, 1956**
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7:30 p.m.—Evangelistic Service.
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Cottage prayer meeting and Bible study.

REMEMBER THOSE Good Old Days

BACK IN 1936
From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, February 28, 1936

On Saturday evening, a gathering of members and others enjoyed a Valentine party in the gym in the Murray Memorial Y.M.C.A. One of the contests was guessing childhood pictures from a gallery that adorned the wall. Miss Oral Chalmers had 24 correctly named. A Japanese sword fight proved interesting to the spectators. Those taking part were F. W. Watson, G. Cooper, Frank Terry and Howard Norton.

Those appointed to the Young People's council of the Y.M.C.A. were Misses Dorothy MacArthur, Edna Hinton, Mary Chalmers, Dorothy McPherson, Fern Brown, Mrs. D. H. Lindsay, Messrs. Jack Smith, Harry A. Norton, Grenville Masales, Arthur Gamble, John Reid, Gordon Cooper, Charles Kirkness; councillors, Jack Alger, Frank Terry, Misses Fanny Hurst, Isabel Cowie.

Another stormy day, with its blocked roads and sub-zero weather couldn't keep the Tanners from getting another game off their chest and they took the Oakville boys by 3 to 1 in their own camp Tuesday night.

Acton line-up, Greer goal, Gibbons and Walters, defense, Mooney centre, Marzo and Lindsay, wings, alternates, N. Morton, Terry, Bus Morton and Marshall, Woods, sub-goal.

Miss Vida Ramshaw was elected regent of Lakeside chapter L.O.O.E. First vice-regent is Miss Marguerite Ryder, second vice-regent, Mrs. A. J. Buchanan and recording secretary Miss Lucy Edwards.

Reggie Hassell acted as postman at the Valentine party at Limehouse school. Leap year and five Saturdays in February. The school boys are having the benefit of it.

The scholars of Knox Sunday school held a skating party last Thursday afternoon at the arena. Mail carriers were badly handicapped in making deliveries for several weeks.

BORN
TYLER — At Acton, Ontario, on Monday, February 17, 1936, to Mr. and Mrs. Matt Tyler, the gift of a daughter.

Oakville's CJHC Receives Okay
Oakville's radio station CJHC, blessed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's board of governors will be in operation by early fall, Howard Caine, head of a syndicate promoting the station, said after receiving the good word from Ottawa.

The call letters CJHC stand for "Halton County," said Mr. Caine. He hadn't picked a spot for a studio but expected it would be in Oakville, "if we can locate the space."

At the Ottawa hearing before the CBC governors only objection was voiced by the manager of the Brampton station.

Nelson Police Kept on Toes
Chief constable Harvey Hunt's report to Nelson Council for January showed four convictions under the Criminal Code, seven local summonses served and 33 others for outside municipalities. Court fines totalled \$55 with costs amounting to \$91.

During the month the police department attended three fires, found a lost child, investigated 12 accidents, served 28 warnings under the Highway Traffic Act, and made 16 criminal investigations. Although no cars were stolen, the force recovered one stolen vehicle, property stolen—amounted to \$706.20 while goods recovered totalled \$323. There were 30 occurrences reported and one dog complaint investigated.

Montrealers spend 11.7 cents of their food dollar on meals in restaurants, in Winnipeg the figure is 10.9, Toronto 9.4, Vancouver 8.3, Halifax 3.9.

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 154

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.

DR. H. LEIB
Dental Surgeon
Office—Corner Mill and Frederick Streets
Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
TELEPHONE 19 - ACTON

DR. A. J. BUCHANAN
Dental Surgeon
Office—Leishman Block, Mill St.
Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
X-RAY
Telephone 148

DR. E. L. BUCHNER, R.O.
Optometrist
48 Mill St. E. Phone 115
Office Hours
Wednesdays: 1:30 - 6:00 p.m.
Evenings by appointment

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 8-9177

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 farm, 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

C. F. LEATHERLAND, Q.C.
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-4-6131

M. E. MANDERSON B.A.
Barrister, Solicitor and Notary Public
4 Main St. S., phone TRiangle 7-2464

MISCELLANEOUS
RUMLEY FUNERAL HOME
Heated Ambulance
Phone 695 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.; 5:06 p.m.; 6:33 p.m.; 8:33 p.m.; 10:08 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.; 7:13 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); 8:01 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 Detroit; passengers from West Toronto and beyond 6:10 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. Flyer at Guelph 6:36 p.m.