

The Acton Free Press
The only paper ever published in Acton

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On File

The second thing we made inquiry about last Wednesday morning when we returned to Acton was the fate of the hearing on the Maria Street bridge. We were delighted to learn that this political football would no longer be heard about in Acton's municipal arena. The wisdom of the decision of the Municipal Board that no vote was necessary on the question was substantiated by petitions for the town's building program and the almost negligible opposition.

The decision and hearing by the Municipal Board has more bearing than the matter of \$15,000 expenditure to be paid over a short period of years. It means a healing of feeling and a uniting of all sections of Acton into one community. A job that could not have successfully been done without a complete airing.

We were pleased last week to be able to present a full report of the proceedings. There can surely no longer be any doubt of the record being given the public. Down through the years the Free Press has been happy to record and leave open to the public all matters of public interest. Who knows, another group of residents may want to refer to the file copy of February 23, 1956.

Gas or Dogs

The decision of the Fuel Board regarding the serving of Acton, Milton and Georgetown with natural gas has been settled with official announcement that approval has been given the United Suburban Gas Co. with provision to use local supplies. The important thing is that the three towns interested have had the benefit of joint action and consideration.

In the long negotiations and fact-finding the united action by the Urban Board has been most beneficial. The companies anxious to provide the service have had to deal with three towns as a unit. The towns have had the benefit of joint hearings before the Fuel Board and yet the freedom of individual preferences.

Whether it's gas or a dog problem, the North Halton Urban Board is doing a service in many ways in solving common problems that prove cooperative consultation can be beneficial to all.

Big Print

It is positively amazing to watch the way this country is being propagandized by governments. First radio, then TV became government instruments to "educate" the people. And now the Federal Government has gone into print in a big and costly way.

Over in Hull, handy to the politicians, the government bought property for their new National Printing Bureau. They paid \$564,991 for the property and another \$150,000 to landscape it. The new building has cost another \$13,035,009 on top of that, and they still have to buy printing equipment.

Printing equipment today is so costly that weekly newspapers are having trouble showing a profit. Yet the Federal Government sees fit, at such a time, to construct the biggest and fanciest printing shop in the nation. About 95 per cent. of the pamphlets it will print might well be allowed to go out-of-print. The balance would be printed by private printers at a fraction of the cost. Readers would never guess that they came from print shops not graced with \$159,000 landscaping!

Keeping Pace

After a two month period of working one Linotype day and night, the mechanical part of the newspaper is getting back to normal. On Friday a completely rebuilt machine took its place again beside our second Linotype. It was a welcome home again that was appreciated. That was its first holiday in 38 years and now its operating just like new. Some other printing office furniture came in on Monday to make the flow of work smoother.

Last week we also unpacked another machine from Switzerland. Evidence of what it can do in brightening up our commercial printing and adding color will be evidenced in the months ahead. We are trying to keep pace with growing trends but sometimes it becomes strenuous.

In Ottawa

Your editor spent a busy two days in Ottawa last week and not a moment did we have to spare to go up to the parliament buildings where the House of Commons is debating sometimes momentous questions on the affairs of the nation. In this great task of guiding the nation one finds in Ottawa many groups quite helpful in presenting phases representative of many groups of Canadians. Not all the work of parliament is done on the floor of the House or in the Senate.

Besides morning and afternoon sessions of our group of representatives of Canadian Weekly Newspapers there was opportunity to meet and hear government officials and others. At least a score of officials were present at various luncheons. At one luncheon we enjoyed the company of Mr. W. J. Turnbull, head of the Canadian Post Office. Possibly we got a better understanding of his problems in the conversation than could have been acquired in a visit to his office or a formal address.

We learned unofficially why Toronto is the biggest bottleneck in postal service and some of the approaches to the solution. Mr. Turnbull is soon to retire from the service but before he does so he will head up the conference of World Postmasters which is being held in Canada for the first time this year.

Also heard the Dominion Statistician tell about the quinquennial census of Canada to be taken this year. It's going to be more simple than the last census and the facts revealed will be made available sooner. Estimates of Canada's growth in the next ten and 25 years would seem to indicate that home building and planning are not being overdone at our present rate.

Indications that Canada's estimated 16 millions will reach 24 millions in the next ten or 15 years are freely put forth and the 25 year period envisions a population double our present number of citizens.

Farm-Business and Seaway

From Mr. H. H. Hannam, and officials of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture we learned of the plight of farmers and the foreseeable future. We gathered that while farmer markets are not enjoying the same prosperity as the manufacturing field or comparable to 1948, the crystal ball does not foretell any further drop. We might add an observation of our own that the subsidies being paid farmers on their price supports are not as great as that being enjoyed by many others who operate and cannot make ends meet.

We also heard from Mr. A. M. Henderson, vice-chairman of the Executive Council of the Chamber of Commerce. This body has been busily preparing a brief putting forth the viewpoint of business and recommendations for consideration of the government.

At the concluding dinner on Tuesday night we heard Hon. George C. Marler, Minister of Transport, speak on that present great Canadian-American project, the St. Lawrence Seaway. On grain alone, it is suggested that with completion of the seaway a reduction of five cents a bushel may be possible in overseas shipments. What the seaway will mean to shipments of iron ore from Labrador and Quebec to the United States steel mills can scarcely be estimated at this stage.

The electrical power that will also be developed by this project amounts into the millions of horsepower and gives some indication of the impact this project will have in the development of Canada and especially in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

Ottawa is always interesting. But it cannot be judged from the talk which comes from parliamentary debate.

Brief Comment

The business of exporting rags . . . brought Canada \$2,000,000 in the first six months of 1955 . . . Disquieting feature of the whole business is that Canadian rags frequently find their way back to this country in the form of "imported" textiles.—Napavée (Ont.) Post-Express.

Blessed are they that co-operate with the editor in his efforts on behalf of the community. For the community shall be known to all men as a good place in which to live and do business; and blessed are they who don't think they could run a newspaper better than the editor—yea, thrice blessed are they because there are so few of them.—Springhill (N.S.) Record.

We often wonder which is making the city more money: the parking meters or parking fines. We cannot afford to make the public disrespectful of the law. The passing out of 414 parking tickets during November would tend to show that a large number of motorists don't mind being classified as criminals. — North Battleford (Sask.) News-Optimist.

Over in Indianapolis the other day, a press photographer had his camera damaged by an official. The judge, in fining the official, made this interesting comment, "As an elected public official, you are news, and you surrender privacy you might enjoy as a private citizen. It's something you must expect when you are elected to a public office."



MARCH BREEZES IN but winter is still with us. In the last few weeks enough snow has fallen to keep everyone well reminded of the time of season, and through the countryside scene after scene, like this one, with snow and ice the salient points of view serve added emphasis to the way of the weather.

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

"The birch bark talks!" With these words the Indian braves of Canada's far north expressed their amazement when they found that the magic signs before their eyes "told them stories."

Actually the characters which look like Egyptian doodling were the simple system of syllabic shorthand devised by a missionary who found their language too difficult to reduce to writing in alphabet form.

By this simple method invented over a hundred years ago, James Evans was able to teach a clever Indian to read in a few hours. The system was built from nine syllabic characters facing in four different positions, representing 36 different sounds. It has been used throughout most of Northern Canada across the years since it was created for the Cree Indians.

To put the peculiar geometric writing on the birch bark, Evans first copied his translation of Bible portions by hand. Since this method was slow, he decided that he must print the text. To make type he first melted tree chest lead linings and shaped them in clay moulds. Impressions in the clay were made from hand carved wood blocks. Later he carved the type from musket bullets.

A press used for treating furs was turned into a printing press. However, he still had no paper and no ink. Birch bark gathered by the children and squaws served as paper. Chimney soot and fish oil were mixed to provide ink.

The "Good News" was printed and the soft bark pages were sewn bound with leather thongs and bound in soft deer-skin.

"The birch bark talks," said the Indians. "It speaks the words of the Great Spirit." Today the entire Bible is available from the British and Foreign Bible Society in Canada, in Cree, in a script invented by a white brother.

Suggested Bible readings for the week: Sunday, James 1:1-18; Monday, James 3: 1-18; Tuesday, James 4: 1-17; Wednesday, James 5: 1-20; Thursday, Exodus 20: 1-17; Friday, Psalms 51: 1-19; Saturday, Psalms 96: 1-13.

Announce Glass Plant For Town

A plant for the production of glass used in the manufacture of lamps will be built at Oakville by Canadian General Electric, the company announced, says the Canadian Press.

At present the announcement said Canadian lamp manufacturers import glass components from the United States and Europe.

E. H. Lindsay, general manager of the company's lamp department, said the new industry will require skills and manufacturing techniques.

He added that introduction of this type of specialized glass manufactured in Canada involved "considerable risk" but it was believed Canadian growth would justify it.

Plans for the initial unit are now under way.

Ultimately the plant is expected to occupy about two-thirds of a seven and one-half acre site and to involve a "multi-million-dollar" investment.

POET'S CORNER

I saw in the azure far away
A preview of a woman's hat
Above saucy twinkling stars that
Knew I would shop the following
night
And see my golden hat turned up
Then find 'neath the stars and
—bright moonlight
Greater peace in the upturned
cup.
—Thalia A. Rochlitz.

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, MARCH 4th, 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.
- THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA**
St. Alban's Church, Acton, Ont.
Rev. Evan H. Jones, B.A., L.Th. Rector
- SUNDAY, MARCH 4th, 1956**
(3rd 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 and Sermon.
4.15 p.m.—Holy Baptism.
7.00 p.m.—Evening Prayer.
- Presbyterian Church in Canada**
KNOX CHURCH, ACTON
REV. ROBERT H. ARMSTRONG
M.A., B.D., Minister
SUNDAY, MARCH 4th, 1956
9.45 a.m.—Church School.
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7.00 p.m.—Evening Service.
They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength.
- BAPTIST CHURCH ACTON**
Ray H. Costerus, Pastor
Parsonage, 115 Bower Ave.
Phone 208
SUNDAY, MARCH 4th, 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 Corner.
Pastor: Rev. K. J. Reid,
81 Cook St., Telephone 649
SUNDAY, MARCH 4th, 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 1906
Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, March 1, 1906.
The interesting character of the proceedings of the municipal council has not yet commenced to flag Monday's meeting was, not without its spicy sallies.
The meter system for the electric light plant got another airing. The matter of the number of drunks on the streets again was spoken of.
On Saturday afternoon a quartet of five year old lads was playing on Corporation Park when one of their number, Master Winston Grace, son of E. W. Grace, butcher, fell into one of the open spaces where the icemen had been harvesting. Two of the lads were frightened and ran away but Master Melvin Williams, son of ex-reeve Williams, pluckily stayed by his little companion and by lying flat on the ice, was able to pull him out of his place of peril. Mr. and Mrs. Grace called at the Williams home on Monday evening and presented the little hero with a silver watch and chain.
Peter Anderson Hornby, son of William Hornby, watchman at Storey's Tannery, returned home after an absence of five years and some exciting experiences. In 1900 he shipped on a yacht at New York and went to Australia, New Zealand and other antipodean points. He was reported drowned following a spree.
The plan is under consideration for a new brick skating and curling rink, with a reading room attached.
A most delightful function was the At Home given by Mrs. D. Henderson last Thursday afternoon. About 150 ladies were present. Mrs. Henderson, who was gowning in black silk and receiving in the drawing room with her daughter, Mrs. McKeague, who is returning to Winnipeg.
St. Alban's church concert included two farces, Cool as a Cucumber and Cabman No. 83. In the casts were Messrs. J. Wood, J. Saunders, J. B. Lake and Misses Gertrude Statham and Madge Chapman in the first and Messrs. Leonard Hobson and J. Wood, Miss Florence Chapman and Mrs. J. B. Lake in the second.

BACK IN 1936
Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, March 5, 1936.
The three months' school in agriculture and home economics organized and conducted by the local branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, was brought to a successful conclusion at a banquet in Palermo.
Acton eliminated Fergus by winning both of the games in the O.H.A. group play-offs. Acton is unbeaten this year in 15 games.
Mrs. John Storey celebrated her ninetieth birthday in Milton on Tuesday. She was born in Esquesing township.
Members and friends of St. Alban's Young People's enjoyed an interesting literary and musical program on Tuesday in the parish hall. Of special interest was the boys' choir of the public school, conducted by Miss S. F. Hunt.
Hughes Cleaver, M.P. for Halton, has been appointed to the following select committees of the House of Commons, agriculture and colonization and miscellaneous private bills.
Monday evening was one of the highlights of Masonic activities, being the official visit of the District Deputy of Wellington district to Walker Lodge, Acton. Right Worshipful Bro. Roy Findlay of Guelph is this year the representative of the Grand Lodge.
Acton Women's Institute held their meeting in the Y.M.C.A. gymnasium and the room was filled with visiting institutes, Dublin, Bannockburn and Osprings and the Acton ladies. Mrs. Witherspoon of Hamilton gave the address on Canadian industries. Mrs. J. E. Macchell drew the lucky number for the major prize.
Nassagaweya has reduced the poll tax there from \$2.50 to \$2.00.
The Women's World Day of Prayer was observed in St. John's church, Rockwood with a good attendance. Each part was conducted by the president of a church group, Mrs. Charles Stovel, Mrs. J. D. McNabb, Mrs. Robert Williamson. Prayers were offered by Mrs. Ure, Mrs. W. J. Taylor, Mrs. J. E. Pearen and Mrs. Danby. Mrs. T. Jackson contributed an appropriate solo.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

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Physician and Surgeon
Office in Symon Block,
43A Mill St. E., Acton
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Residence 115 Church St. E.
Phone 150 | C. F. LEATHERLAND, Q.C.
Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public
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1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturdays by appointment only
Office 22 Phone --- Res. 151
ACTON |
| DR. D. A. GARRETT
Physician and Surgeon
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Entrance River Street
Acton, Ontario
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Chartered Accountants
51 Main St. N. 44 Victoria St.
Brampton Toronto
Phones: 2478 EM 4-9131 |
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Physician and Surgeon
39 Wellington St., Acton, Ont.
Phone 678
Office Hours 6-8 p.m. | M. E. MANDERSON B.A.
Barrister, Solicitor and
Notary Public
4 Main St. S., phone TRIangle
7-2464 |
| DR. A. J. BUCHANAN
Dental Surgeon
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Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
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Telephone --- 148 | MISCELLANEOUS |
| DR. H. LEIB
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Optometrist
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Wednesdays: 1:30 - 6:00 p.m.
Evenings by appointment. | TRAVELLERS' GUIDE |
| VETERINARY | GRAY COACH LINES
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Office and Residence—24 Knox Ave.
Acton—Phone 130 | Eastbound
6.38 a.m.; 6.58 a.m.; 11.33 a.m.; 2.08 p.m.; 5.08 p.m.; 6.33 p.m.; 8.33 p.m.; 10.08 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.) |
| B. D. YOUNG, B.V. Sc.
C. L. YOUNG, D.V.M.
Veterinary Surgeons
Office: Brookville, Ontario
Phone—Milton TR 8-9177 | 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.; 11.2 a.m. (Fri., Sat., Sun. and Hol.) |
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