


The Acton Free Press
The only paper ever published in Acton



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G. A. Dills, Editor-in-Chief
David R. Dills, Production Manager
James A. Dills, John Black, Associate Editors
Business and Editorial Office - Ph. 600 Acton

Top No Stopping Place

Naturally we are very much pleased in the results achieved in Canada wide competitions with the papers published by the Dills Printing and Publishing Company Limited. To, in one year, have our two papers take six of the nine awards of merit and all three trophies in our circulation group may be one of the things hoped for but not often accomplished. In the years we have been competing let us assure our readers there were many in which our achievements were far below the year 1956. The years of failure served as times of urging to give Acton and Milton papers a better chance in the top brackets.

We want our readers to know, too, that in the newspaper field any achievements are due to a fair sized team and the co-operation of the staff of the company is essential to any accomplishment. It's necessary to have co-operation as well from correspondents, advertisers, readers and those many friends who tip us off on news stories. A prize winning paper is indicative of one element of a prize winning town and district. The honors are widely shared.

From past experience we know full well that the present is no time to rest on the laurels of the past. The present would therefore be a good time to tell that even before the awards were announced arrangements had been started for further improvements in the Free Press. This month your home town paper will become a bigger paper. The page size will be the standard eight columns and a longer column on each page. By opening up the type spacing you will in the new format find the text easier to read. We hope you will like the new format now in the development stage which will be presented during September. We plan to go right on in our efforts to supply for Acton and district a prize-winning weekly newspaper.

From Sea to Sea

This week, down in Quebec Province, "Canada's biggest family party" is being held.

It first got that name when it was staged in Toronto in 1954 and the label has stuck.

Attending the "party" are close to 500 persons—mostly members and their wives of the world's biggest press association—The Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association.

Canada has close to 800 non-metropolitan weekly, twice-weekly and tri-weekly papers and the large majority of them pay dues, ranging up to \$75 per year, to support their national newspaper association. In Ontario alone there are over 200 weeklies.

It is true that the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association has a few economic objectives and is concerned to some extent with the over \$25 million of advertising and printing its members produce each year. But primarily it lives simply for the promotion of Canadianism.

Although its head offices are in Toronto, the Association's annual convention is held each year in a different part of Canada. This year it is Quebec. In 1957 it will be Banff, Alberta; in 1958, Halifax. And to these conventions come the publishers and editors of not only the bigger journals, but the little ones, too—the Fundy Fishermen of Black's Harbour, the Fort Saskatchewan Record, the Altona Red River Valley Echo, the Fort Qu'Appelle Valley Legend, the Osoyoos Times and the Similkameen Spotlight—names as picturesque and as Canadian as Canada itself.

At their conference tables and their after-hour discussions, editors of French, English and foreign language papers, men and women from rugged Newfoundland fishing villages; from Prairie grain lands and from industrial centres in Ontario, each year rediscover the common ties that bind them and their communities into a Canada that is truly one Dominion from sea to sea.

Unsubsidized by government, little heralded in the Massey reports, and seldom probed by sociologists, we wonder if there is any single factor which looms larger in the development of a Canadian culture than the annual get-together of the weekly newspapers of this land. This year's Alouette convention at Murray Bay, will be their 37th.

Shifting the Load

We can not agree with the proposal of an official of the Mayors' Association to attempt to take a bigger slice of what Ontario may get from any change in the new Dominion-Provincial tax split. There's altogether too much interest being shown in this easy way of shifting the load. Surely by now everyone knows that governments at any level have only one source of money and the power to get it from the taxpayer by enacting laws to meet the need. Surely everyone knows that governments at any level are not very efficient in the spending of that money.

Commenting on recent statements by political leaders on Dominion-provincial tax-sharing proposals, the Vancouver Sun observes: "We should like to remind these gentlemen once again that there is only one taxpayer. He is the Canadian taxpayer and he pays for everything all the politicians do, whether they're at Ottawa, the provincial capital or the city hall. Despite what politicians may think it won't be easy in 1957 or any other election year to arouse the taxpayer's interest in the details of the carve-up. It's the total they take from his hide that interests him."

If any shifting is required in this present day it should be off the shoulders of the taxpayers. The load will be shifted only when the people fully realize that governments are inept administrators of your funds and we do more for ourselves without government aid. Unfortunately the shift and drift is in the wrong direction and few are pulling against the tide.

So What?

The recent provincial election in Quebec has apparently lowered again the standing of chosen leadership in that part of Canada. Leaders in church and other circles have been outspoken in condemnation of the conduct of Quebec politicians. Rev. Louis O'Neill said that some politicians in the province seem to think a political campaign is something like a hockey game or a wrestling match.

In an interview published in the Quebec daily newspaper Le Soleil, Father O'Neill said: "Do we, for example, think of the consequences of certain attitudes taken in the operation of the electoral process during which youths witness reprehensible methods or hear bare-faced lies spoken by men who officially constitute our elite?"

"How will these youths conduct themselves in 15 or 20 years? We must not forget that it is very easy to lower the civic conscience level and that it is an extremely long task to raise it. The political history of nations demonstrates this."

Quebec is a very large and important part of Canada and we in Ontario and other parts of the Dominion have no reason to feel smug and say it cannot happen here. It is all very well to deplore the conduct of our youth of today, but what are we as their leaders doing to set an example? The present plight of Quebec is something that did not happen just in the past year. It's common knowledge that here in Ontario a hockey star will draw a greater vote than men who are good legislators and of leadership material in forming sound governing legislation.

There isn't a province in Canada that can claim superiority over another in its leadership choices. After listening to the conduct of two political conventions in the United States it might even be said that the statement made by Rev. O'Neill is applicable to the whole North American continent. Maybe other continents might also be included if one is to be guided by world news of today.

Deplorable as it may be admitted the question to be faced is: what are we doing about it? The answer lies not with groups or other people but with ourselves.

Brief Comment

Common attraction for many folk with many interests is the Exhibition in Toronto these days. Opening days set some new attendance records this year.

This week the editor and Mrs. Dills are attending the annual convention of Canadian Weekly Newspapers at Murray Bay in Quebec. Next week we may have more comment on this event which takes in such a wide field.

Next week is the trek back to school and the end of the long summer vacation. Education is the privilege of every child, rich or poor. Those who miss their opportunities have only themselves to blame.

Removal of three stalwart maples along Mill Street last week made quite an altered appearance on Acton's main thoroughfare. There were many comments of regret, but when the new street lighting is erected there'll also be acclaim in the wider appearance to the business section.

The erection of fine new signs at the highway approaches to Acton are much to the credit of Acton Chamber of Commerce who gave leadership to completing a project which has been discussed for sometime. The Chamber will deserve the support of all citizens in the many things they accomplish for the good of the town.



Photo by Esther Taylor

EVER WALK A PATH that you didn't know where it led to? Here's a smaller-enjoyment of life that can unfold many curious, often fascinating discoveries. A simple exploration often, but sometimes leading to a wealth of natural wonders. Who knows, a path of such enticing charm could be a stone's throw from your own back yard.

The Bible Today

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

Today's rapid spread of Islam is concerning more than statesmen and politicians. The church is beginning to realize that a revival of religion is taking place around the world. Mohammedanism, like Hinduism, Confucianism, Buddhism and other religions that have a strong association with Nationalist traditions, has taken serious strides forward in recent years.

A rapidly changing Africa and Middle East which are historically the cultural seats of Islam, are entering upon a new era. Measures used by Western Missions for decades no longer apply. For this reason the Bible Societies are facing the facts of current events and changing their tactics in Bible distribution.

Rev. W. J. Platt has recommended to the London committee of The British and Foreign Bible Society a momentous plan which has been accepted in principle. It is that in consultation with the Missionary Societies in West Africa, the Bible Society should select and train a number of Africans in the art of presenting the Gospel to Muslims.

"The aim of the program," says Dr. Platt, "would be to prepare a new approach for the presentation of the Gospel to Muslims in a natural and friendly spirit." Those chosen would live among their own tribes and work among their own people. The problem connected with this proposed plan is a shortage of supply of the Bible in Arabic script. For generations translations have been made predominantly in the Roman script which is used by the churches. Few outside are able to read this script. Since there is little literature that is not too difficult for the average reader available in the Arabic script and because of the Arab's natural thirst for knowledge, it is believed that the new method will work. To be tested, however, millions of volumes in this script must be made available for distribution below cost or free of charge.

Suggested readings for the week: Sunday, Isaiah 6: 1-14; Monday, Isaiah 9: 1-21; Tuesday, Isaiah 11: 1-16; Wednesday, Isaiah 26: 1-21; Thursday, Isaiah 42: 1-25; Friday, Isaiah 51: 1-16; Saturday, Deuteronomy 24: 14-22.

Skunk's Dinner on Long Board Lures Unwelcome Visitor Out

At the Oakville Humane Shelter they have come upon a new way of removing skunks from homes they wander into. They lure the little fellows out with raw meat.

One little stinkler managed to find his way into the cellar of a sixth line home. The Humane Society was called and it was decided to lure the animal out of the basement with raw meat on a long board, angled from the cellar floor to the outside of the home.

"You just can't go down there and pick him up," said Al MacNab, who is in charge of the Shelter. "They like to sleep during the day but at night when he's hungry, he'll find the food placed along the board." The idea is that the unwelcome visitor eats himself out of the cellar by following the trail of meat.

When he gets to the end of his free dinner at the opposite end of the board from where he started, he finds himself in the wide open spaces and will return to his natural habitat. The Society has traps, but doesn't think it would be wise to use them for skunks in a person's home.

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, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1956
10:00 a.m.—Junior Church and Church School.
11:15 a.m.—Morning Worship.
Speaker, Mr. Lloyd White, Toronto.

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1956
(Trinity XIV)
11:00 a.m.—Choral Communion and Sermon.
Tuesday, September 4, 8 p.m.—Church school teachers' meeting.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA
KNOX CHURCH, ACTON
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1956
9:45 a.m.—Church School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
Rev. A. Calder, Georgetown.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship.
Induction Service for Rev. Andrew H. Mackenzie will be held in the church at 8 p.m., Thursday, September 6.

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1956
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
Mr. Wilfred Murray, Toronto.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship in Knox church.

ACTON PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY
Meeting in L.O.L. Hall, Crewson's Corners.
Pastor: Rev. K. J. Reid.
81 Cook St., Telephone 649w.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 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
Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, September 3, 1936.

School rooms that have been vacant since June last again echoed to marching feet and filled seats when the scholars went back to school on Tuesday of this week. Caretaker Mann had the premises in excellent condition.

There are no changes on the public school staff this year. The staff is: Miss M. Z. Bennett, principal; Miss D. Folter, Miss M. Orr, Miss I. Anderson, Miss W. McMillan, Miss M. Young, Miss I. Bruce, Miss T. F. Hunt. There is a registration of 291 in the public school and the primary department has 41 beginners.

The registration in the high school is 90. The first form is somewhat smaller than usual, with 28 in the class. There is but one change in the staff here. Mr. D. A. MacRae, B.A., is principal and Miss H. I. Bell and Miss M. Jackson, B.A., are the assistants.

Mrs. Agnes Young, Ballinacraig's grand old lady, on Tuesday celebrated her 94th birthday. Her memories go as far back as the days of the Mackenzie rebellion when her father hid his rifle lest it be seized by the rebels.

At the Canadian National Exhibition today, the Lorne Rifles (Scottish) Band of Georgetown won first place. Mr. Charles Landsborough of Acton is a member of this prize-winning band.

The championship series was drawn to a fifth game when Acton last year broke to Milton on Saturday by the score of 7-6. Lefty Morton did the throwing for Acton and deserved to win the game.

There was a bigger crowd on hand than ever, and they made lots of noise.

BACK IN 1906
Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, August 30, 1906.

Mr. J. B. Mackenzie, contractor and builder, has purchased the property at the south-east corner of Church and Main Sts. for a number of years owned by Mr. Samuel McLam. This property is in excellent condition. It is part of the estate of the Adams, Acton's first settlers. The house on the property was the home of Rev. Zenas Adams, one of the original family here. Mr. Mackenzie will divide up the lot and perhaps build on some of them.

One of the chief events of the season at the Ballinacraig district took place last Friday evening at Mr. and Mrs. Stafford Bennett's home when a number of friends and acquaintances met together to wish goodspeed to Mr. and Mrs. Bennett who are leaving for the west.

Advertisements, Harvest help is wanted in Manitoba and Saskatchewan \$12 going trip; \$18 for return. Canadian Pacific.

Guelph is to have a lady doctor Dr. Beattie.

Mr. R. B. Scott, who has conducted the busy store in the west for the past few years with gratifying success, has disposed of the business to Mr. H. H. Unsworth of Peergus. As is well known, this is Acton's growing time and the proprietor has an excellent opportunity for doing a profitable business if he maintains the good reputation earned by his predecessor.

The members of the Fire Brigade and their ladies gave Councillor McIntosh a very enjoyable social evening prior to his departure for the west.

Mr. Adam Cook has gone into the cement walk-and-curb business. He is laying walk-south of the Acton cause.

The music of the school bell will be heard again next Tuesday morning.

These are busy days for the thrasher.

The barn of Thomas Sutton on lot 12, concession 4, Eramosa, was struck by lightning during last Thursday's storm and burned to the ground. The season's crop, a farm and cart and nearly all the farm implements, were also destroyed. The loss is about \$2,000.

At council meeting Monday, it was reported \$4,299 feet of new cement pavements were in first class condition and entirely satisfactory. A total amount of \$3,650.58 was paid for laying the new walks.

PERMANENT LICENCE WATERLOO, Ont. (CP)—City council is considering issuing permanent licences for bicycles.

Back to Standard Time Monday
At the first meeting of the school board, the secretary was instructed to write to the Department of Education requesting permission to teach four Upper School subjects in the Continuation School.

Championship winners in grain sheaf competitions at the C.N.E. on Tuesday were S. E. Griffin and Son, Acton, in wheat, S. E. Griffin and Son, in barley.

The Legion Zone church parade will be held in Acton on Sunday afternoon, September 13.

Unfavorable weather made cancellation of the outdoor service at the park necessary Sunday.

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 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

REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE
F. L. WRIGHT
20 Wilbur St.
Acton, Ontario
Phone 95
Appraiser, Real Estate and Insurance

WM. R. BRACKEN
INSURANCE AGENCY
8 Mill Street
Phone 26 Res. 555r
GENERAL INSURANCE

J. BERT WOOD
General and Life Insurance
Phone 585 77 Mill St.

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 8-9177

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

LEGAL
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 7 Res. 151
ACTON

LEVER & HOSKIN
Chartered Accountants
51 Main St. N. 41 Victoria St.
Brampton Toronto
Phones: 2478-EM 4-9151

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TRAVELLERS' GUIDE
GRAY COACH LINES
COACHES LEAVE ACTON

Daylight Saving Time
Eastbound
6:33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol.)
9:55 a.m.; 11:33 a.m.; 2:05 p.m.; 5:08 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 5:40 a.m.; Daily except Sundays 10:00 a.m.; 7:13 p.m. (flag-stop) 7:48 p.m.; Saturday only 1:24 p.m.; Sunday only 8:03 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 5:31 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. Flyer at Guelph 5:57 p.m.