

The Acton Free Press

The only paper ever published in Acton



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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1956

To Find a Way to Pay

Acton taxpayers got a bit of a jolt last week when it was learned the new, six-room public school will not cost \$120,000 as was first estimated, but \$132,000. Council takes a pessimistic view of the municipal bond market, not without reason, and estimates it will have to indent the town for about \$139,000 in order to buy \$132,000 required by the School Board.

And, of course, by the time interest is paid for 20 years on this debenture the six-room school—Acton's second public school building—will have cost about as much again. The Department of Education subsidizes to 41 per cent. of \$120,000 which can be some consolation.

It's cried again and again that the soaring costs of education have to stop somewhere, sometime. But how? Federal aid or increased provincial aid to the over-taxed municipalities is often repeated as a solution. But it's questionable if education, tied tighter in state socialism, would be any less costly to the taxpayer than that it is now. Perhaps the burden would fall with an easier spread than it does under the municipal system, but major assumption by the state of educational costs would invariably mean long-term tax legislation that would be just as burdensome in the end.

But this is getting away from Acton's current problem. A second public school must be built, and it is going to cost the ratepayers more money than was first believed. If industrial assessment here were to increase from its present, roughly 30 per cent., that would help the homeowners. But as veteran civic workers know, it takes time, effort, money and even luck to acquire new industry.

With no easy relief from climbing administrative and capital costs of education readily applicable, there is merit in the idea of a thorough study of the method educational assessment is apportioned and raised at the municipal level.

Are there inequalities in the system? Have other forms of municipal taxation, other than the general rate, been by-passed? In view of the current and growing over-balance of education's share of the general tax dollar, would it not be time to review business, poll, location and other "minor" taxes for adjustment? What of the newly-tried tax on land developers?

We don't pretend to know the answers to these and other questions that come to mind. But if some answers were found and applied we do know what necessary municipal autonomy there is in education will live longer and more effectively than under a fully state-subsidized system.

Autumn Thanksgiving

In the autumn of 1621 the pilgrims of Plymouth observed North America's first day of thanksgiving. In Canada's early history thanksgiving days were usually proclaimed only for victories in war. Not until 1879 did Thanksgiving Day in Canada become an annual expression of gratitude for the harvest. For a time after the first world war it was linked with Armistice Day, but since then has been restored as a separate celebration.

This week-end we once again celebrate Thanksgiving, October, bringing cool misty nights and crisp clear days, sees the splendour of autumn leaves, full granaries and other harbingers of cold, white months, to come. It is a fitting time to celebrate in thanks to God for Canada's abundant blessings.

Here, in Halton county, we share the fortune of many Canadians in living in a rural area where the painted woods and pungent air gives an added, splendid wonder to nature at Thanksgiving time. Perhaps we have cause to be more thankful, for we are closer to the earth that provides a living for so many of us.

But whether we live here, in the country, or in closely populated cities, we all have much to be thankful for this autumn Thanksgiving.

The World and the Weekly

Weekly newspapers, as a rule, keep comment on international events down to a minimum. One reason for this is that readers are exposed to enough editorial treatment on these subjects in the daily press and news magazines. Too, most small town editors have enough to worry about on the home front to be bothered with remote and often obscure events on the other side of the world.

Sometimes, however, this disinclination to reduce to local perspective the world-wide news can be carried too far, to the exclusion of any reference about developments in the councils, laboratories, schools and arsenals of overseas lands. When the role of the weekly is considered, this could be termed a serious mistake of omission.

As a vehicle of information and centre of opinion, no other agent, unless it's the traditional back fence comes closer to the man in the street of a small community than his home town newspaper. And in this rambling county of Canada, there are far more men in the streets of small towns than big cities.

The course of big events invariably moves to affect or involve that same man on the street who reads the weekly paper so closely.

The Egyptian dictator, Nasser, uses up all the free world's appeasement, war follows and free Canada summons its men on the streets here and in every community to arms. A U.N. research team of doctors and scientists traces and confines the tubercle bacillus; the man and his family next door need never worry about TB. A cadre of international geophysicists next year proves practical chemical influence on atmospheric pressure areas; here and in many lands farmers and their neighbors raise bumper crops year after year because of controlled weather.

So might the train of international events taking place today influence the living of men, women and children in this town tomorrow.

This is National Weekly Newspapers Week. Great stress is laid the weeklies' interpretation of the lives in the small world that is our community, in their fine attunement to the needs and thinking of the several hundred citizens served. This stress is not without reason and earned, but weekly newspaper readers no longer live only within horse and buggy distance borders, nor do their editors.

This is National Weekly Newspapers Week. It would be an apt time to suggest that the weekly papers' and small town readers' views on the world at large are the most important, because these people, men-on-the-street, are the world.

Fire Prevention Week

By proclamation, Governor General Vincent Massey has designated October 7-13 as Fire Prevention Week as an imperative reminder of the increasing need for the control of fire and its hazards.

In the last 10 years, the proclamation states, fires in Canada have taken a toll of 4,586 lives and have seriously injured 16,000 persons. The financial loss of 623,223 fires in the decade has been \$800,000,000. No less shocking is the picture of Canada's fire loss position in relation to other civilized nations.

The per capita fire loss in Canada in 1952 was \$5.86, with our nation heading the list of 13 compared. The U.S.A. was next with \$4.56 and Norway third with \$2.44. Other nations graduated third to Italy, last with a per capita loss of .32. This unenviable record was published by a U.N. committee and later figures, released in 1954, show the record worsening.

Because most fires—and most deaths—are the result of human carelessness, public education is deemed the most effective way of combating the menace, especially in the home, where most deaths tragically involve women and children. There are lives that might have been spared had the simplest rules of safety been followed.

Bringing a story directly to the public is the army of Canada's 25,000 firefighters—professional and volunteer—the men who, night and day, must stand ready to face the tragedy of fire.

The banner they bear reads: Don't give fire a place to start!

Brief Comment

The brawling loudness which appears to have taken over the international and national scene seems to follow the saying, "the wheel that squeals the loudest gets the most grease." Nasser's bullying has got the Suez and Elvis Presley's half-million dollar income cannot be overlooked—Melfort (Sask.) Journal.

Intelligent participation by parents in the educational affairs of their boys and girls can do much to ensure a good future for the younger generation. School alone cannot be expected to teach our boys and girls, the old-fashioned virtues of loyalty, decency, responsibility and work-willingness. —Chillick (B.C.) Progress.



On This Thanksgiving Day

Chronicles of Ginger Farm

Time, Standard or Otherwise

By Gwendolyn P. Clarke
Back to standard time—and for some unknown reason, we found it very hard to adjust ourselves to change much harder than last spring when we changed over to fast time. Actually we were not at all anxious to take advantage of that extra hour's sleep Sunday morning. Instead, we were up an hour earlier—that is, according to the clock.

But I suppose in a day or two we won't know the difference. Perhaps it was the return of fine summer weather that made us feel energetic. We wanted to be up and doing. As to that, do you ever wake up with the thought, "Here hath been dawning another blue day. Think, will thou let it slip uselessly away?"

Time is such a precious thing and yet, because there seems so much of it—especially when we are young—we often fail to appreciate its true value. Thus we let it slip uselessly away. We fail to remember that without time, nothing can be accomplished; with time, all things are possible—plus a few items like energy, perseverance and patience.

I was going to add "good health" but that isn't always necessary. In many instances, much has been accomplished from an invalid's bed. But health is certainly the governing factor in the type of activity in which we engage. It helps us to realize our limitations—to know that while one type of work is beyond our strength, another type can quite easily be undertaken. That is the way with Partner and I anyway—as with countless other folk. Much of the work we used to do is now beyond our strength, but that doesn't mean we must be content to sit

down and twiddle our thumbs. No indeed, for that way madness lies.

Come to think of it, for the next two months we are not likely to do much thumb-twiddling anyway. At the present moment, we are making last minute preparations for niece Babs and her two little girls—Carol and Nancy, four years and 20 months old, respectively. Ginger Farm will be their temporary headquarters until housing arrangements have been completed for them at Blind River. The trio, with Daddy in charge, are supposed to arrive about eight o'clock tonight. What our erstwhile quiet home will be like after that is anyone's guess. I'll tell you next week!

Last week, Partner and I took this opportunity of the lull before the storm to do a little gadding. On two occasions we visited friends on farms in Wellington and Dufferin county. And on Wednesday and Thursday I was in Guelph, partly to look in on the W.I. Convention.

Saturday was the day of our local fair. And the weather was perfect. The fair must have beaten all records, both in attendance and the number of exhibits. The midway, too, appeared to be bigger than ever. Whether it was "better" we have no means of knowing, it being our policy to keep as far away from it as possible.

As is always the case, we met people at the fair we hadn't seen in years, some of whom had come quite a distance. I imagine it was the people, more than the exhibits, that the "old-timers" came to see. It is just a case of schools within wheels. Without exhibits there could be no fair; without people there could be no exhibits.

Put the two together and they attract an outside attendance that come to see both.

"Well, we had a hard decision to make over the week-end whether or not to send Robbie, our little Welsh Corgi, to a new home. Two dogs and two people get along fine. But when you add to the family two adults, two grandsons and one cocker spaniel, things get a little complicated. Rusty is supposed to stay out of the house because he is too big and busterous and upsets the smaller dogs. Dave, however, loves Rusty, so he manages to let him into the house every chance he gets. That is when bedlam begins.

With Carol and Nancy here, I could foresee more problems ahead. It so happened I knew a family where there are school-age children who were most anxious to adopt Robbie. Yesterday, I took him over to see what his reaction would be to new surroundings. I needn't have worried. He and the children took to each other as if they had been brought up together. So I left him on probation. I thought if we intended to part with him, now was the time—before Carol and Nancy arrived.

This morning I phoned to inquire if Robbie had really settled down happily after I had gone. He is still perfectly contented. Actually, it is a shame for Robbie not to have a permanent home with children—he is so fond of them. But if other dogs are around, there is trouble, as he is very jealous. To part with him wasn't easy—he is such a lovable little dog—but I think as time goes on we shall eventually feel it was the best thing to do. Especially as Robbie is definitely not a "one man's dog" but of the type to be happy with anyone who is kind and makes a fuss of him.

Rusty is quite different. We would hate to send Rusty to a new home—I think it would break his heart, unless he was with someone already known to him and whom he recognized as a friend of the family.

THIS SUNDAY'S CHURCH CALENDAR

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, OCTOBER 7th, 1956

9:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer.
10:00 a.m.—Junior Church and Church School.
11:15 a.m.—Morning Worship.
Thursday, 8 p.m.—Choir practice.

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

St. Alban's Church, Acton, Ont.
Rev. Evan H. Jones, B.A., L.Th., Rector

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7th, 1956

TRINITY XIX
9:00 a.m.—Holy Communion.
9:45 a.m.—Church School and Senior Bible Class.
11:00 a.m.—Beginners' Class.
11:00 a.m.—Choral Communion.
7:00 p.m.—Evensong.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

KNOX CHURCH, ACTON
Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7th, 1956

9:45 a.m.—Church School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship.

BAPTIST CHURCH ACTON

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7th, 1956

10:00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship.
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Prayer meeting.

ACTON PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY

Meeting in L.O.L. Hall, Crewson's Corners.
Pastor: Rev. K. J. Reid, 81 Cook St., Telephone 649w.
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7th, 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.

Census Bureau Figures Differ With Assessor

Georgetown—Conflicting with figures received from the dominion census bureau, Georgetown's population is 6252, according to assessment commissioner, Joseph Gibbons.

Council was informed by the bureau that the official count in the census taken this summer is 5881.

Mr. Gibbons, who takes a yearly survey for his assessing records, has come up with the 6252 figure. "I guess the Liberal government didn't count the Tories when they were taking the census," quips Mr. Gibbons.

The census bureau asked if there was any discrepancy in figures, that they be advised, and a letter has been sent, indicating that the figures should be revised to 6252.

The 1951 dominion census totalled 3432, and the local census figure means an increase of exactly 2800 in a five year period. Accurate figures are particularly important to municipalities, as many government grants are based on the population.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1936

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, October 4, 1936.

A day on which the weather never was certain rather than Tuesday capped the Inter-school Athletic meet at Acton last Thursday. Milton scholars carried off the most honors and Kay Chapman of Acton school had the highest individual score.

Last week fire chief R. M. McDonald tendered his resignation as chief of the Acton Fire Brigade after 17 years of faithful and efficient services. Health also compelled Mr. John MacArthur to relinquish his post as assistant chief.

Acton was well represented musically at Meafordville on Tuesday evening when choirmaster Bert Mason of the United church took his chorists and other local folk down to give a concert in his old home. The program included several numbers by the choir, selections by a brass quartette by Messrs. Simpson and Gibson, with Norman Gibson's sousaphone, arming a great deal of interest, cornet solos by Charles Landsborough, vocal solos by Ruth Gibson and Rev. Dr. Morrow and readings by Mrs. Charles Kirkness.

The LODGE award for the pupil making the highest standing in the entrance examinations this year was awarded to Mina Crapp. A victrola was purchased by the Order for use at the school.

Lamhouse school fair was the scene of an outstanding exhibit last Wednesday. The champion school fair shield was won by SS No. 14, Equestrian, and the T. Eaton Co. trophies were awarded as follows: first silver trophy, Marguerite Kentner; second, book, Clarence Denny; third, book, Doris Harding.

Nassagaweya rural school fair was held at Brookville last Tuesday. The shield was won by SS No. 7, Nassagaweya.

Before long, Mary Piekford will become Mrs. Buddy Rogers, according to rumors floating around Hollywood. America's sweetheart has often been in the company of the popular screen idol.

Teachers of the Halton inspectors are holding their convention tomorrow with sessions at the Royal Ontario Museum. Miss M. Z. Bennett is secretary of the organization.

BACK IN 1906

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, October 4, 1906.

A half dozen apples from the garden of Mr. Robert Agnew are exhibited in the Free Press window which surges anything we have seen this season. They are of the popular variety much in demand this season—Wealthy.

For some time Charlie Sney, the proprietor of the Chinese Laundry on Willow St., has been the butt of a great deal of annoyance. However, the onslaught last Thursday was more than good nature could endure. Half a score or more of boys and young men threw black grapes and ink over a large quantity of laundered goods he was finishing. Charlie complained to the constable and the boys paid the damages rather than go into court. Charlie is a good citizen and a British subject.

The work of constructing gutters on Mill and Church Sts. is going along splendidly. They will likely be finished by Christmas, certainly not by Thanksgiving.

Mr. Edward Holmes of the Oregon Short Line R.R. at Salt Lake, Utah, is spending a week at the home of his father, Mr. Joseph Holmes, Howe Ave. Mr. Holmes, who has resided in the Mormon metropolis for three years, says the Gentiles are gaining the upper hand in Salt Lake; both in population and the government of municipal affairs. The Mormons are leaving the city in large numbers. Too many of them are settling in the Canadian Northwest.

The officers and directors of Nassagaweya Agricultural Society saw the culmination of their work last Friday at Campbellville. The weather was propitious for the 52nd annual exhibition. There was a large number of entries in the horse classes and they were widely acknowledged to be among the best in the province.

Some of the winners were: best 20 lbs. butter in crock, Mrs. D. Irving; handmade shirt, Mrs. D. Irving; Mexican embroidery, Mrs. Wilmot; Kensington embroidery, Mrs. Irving; Bulgarian embroidery, Mrs. Wilmot; piano or table scarf, Mrs. Wilmot; pen and ink sketch, Frank Hubbard; oil painting, Dr. G. B. Carbert; map of Halton, Verma Taylor; Willie Elliott.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

MEDICAL	OPTICAL
DR. W. G. C. KENNEY Physician and Surgeon Office in Symon Block, 43A Mill St. E., Acton Office Phone 71 Residence 115 Church St. E. Phone 150	E. L. BUCHNER, R.O. Optometrist 48 Mill St. E., Acton Office Hours Wednesdays: 1:30 - 6:00 p.m. Evenings by appointment.
DR. D. A. GARRETT Physician and Surgeon Corner of Willow and River Sts. Entrance River Street Acton, Ontario Phone 238	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
DR. ROBERT D. BUCKNER Physician and Surgeon 39 Wellington St., Acton, Ont. Phone 679 Office Hours 6-8 p.m.	LEVER & HOSKIN Chartered Accountants 51 Main St. N. 44 Victoria St. Brampton Toronto Phones: 2478 EM 4-9131
DR. A. J. BUCHANAN Dental Surgeon Office—Lushman Block, Mill St. Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m. X-RAY Telephone 148	MISCELLANEOUS Husted Ambulance RUMLEY FUNERAL HOME Phone 699 night or day Bruce E. Shoemaker, Mgr. 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
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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—Millton TR 8-9777	