

The Acton Free Press

The only paper ever published in Acton



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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1956

Growth Forces Change

The sounds and sight of power shovels, hammers and saws are sensed around Acton again these days as new construction pushes the community growth more and more. This time, unlike the past few building seasons, it is not residential construction that is dominating building progress but commercial construction.

In Lakeview houses are still going up, but not with the rapidity of a few months ago. Home building in Glenlea, nearly completed, has seen little activity recently. It is a result of this residential construction, however, that the commercial building activity is now as vigorous as it is.

Acton's population has increased 600 in little more than two years. This is an arresting fact in itself. But even more noteworthy is the changing print of the town's economy. With more consumers to be served, more family units and homes to be catered to, the economy must reflect in business and retail facilities the demands created by this growing market—that is the population increase.

In downtown Acton the Bank of Montreal is constructing a modern, enlarged banking house. On Acton's eastern edge two new service stations are abuilding, a third is to be built, a local transport firm is putting up a big new depot. (Construction in this section is not all commercial; planned to rise soon is a place of worship for the large Christian Reform Church congregation in this district.)

Elsewhere established businesses in Acton are expanding to meet and compete for the bigger market. On the municipal side, these new businesses and extensions mean increased assessment, broader spread of the tax burden.

It may well follow that new industrial growing will be predicated by this commercial growth, just as the latter was predicated by residential growth.

After the Urban Board?

This month has seen a renewal, after summer recess, of meetings of the North Halton Urban Board—the tri-town experiment in municipal co-operation which after two years has proven itself a valuable body to have around.

Looking back, the Board has operated best as a trouble-shooter. It has not, nor is it likely to have, legislative powers. It can only pass on collective decisions to the separate councils as suggestions for enactment. But as trouble-shooters the Urban Board representatives have tackled many knotty problems, smoothed out some common difficulties and proposed worthwhile projects.

Some of the achievements: employment of an engineer, at first jointly serving three towns; now serving two full time; common industrial promotion of the North Halton area (Trade Fair—both, promotional literature etc.); arrangement to serve the three towns by the Oakville Humane Society.

Some of the less visible functions: coordination of natural gas policy through earlier negotiations with rival companies to the level of final negotiations with the franchise-winning firm; comparison of problems, and trading of ideas on garbage disposal, policy to subdividers, administrative and employment considerations.

Some of the ideas in ferment: achievement of an extended area telephone service to include Acton, Milton, Georgetown—and the two townships; most recent proposal is for an 18 to 20-man police force which could serve from a central location all North Halton municipalities.

During the short life of the Urban Board the reportorial staff of this newspaper has brought readers full and accurate accounts of all deliberations and decisions. This is done to shed as much attention on this body as on our own town council. For it can well be that the North Halton Urban Board is a shape of a bigger, metro-like council soon to come.

At the rate the municipalities of North Halton are growing, with the miles between urban boundaries dwindling, this could be nearer than we think.

Hallowe'en Old Festival

Hallowe'en, one of our oldest festive days that will be celebrated next Wednesday, dates back to long before the Christian era. The ancient priests of the Druids are often credited with having founded the first harvest festival. This was held on what is now the last day of October, the eve of All Saints' Day.

Giant fires were lit in honor of the sun god, whose spirit, so they believed, deserved recognition and honor for the role in growing crops.

Centuries later the Christian church leaders established a day in honor of the saints which became All Saints' Day. About the same time, as Druids were celebrating their harvest festival, the Romans had a similar autumn feast period in honor of Pomona, goddess of the orchard.

In the middle ages ghosts and witches were introduced. This was taken as reason for performance of strange and mischievous antics and pranks by the celebrants. The pranks continued their mysterious ghostly deeds until midnight. When the midnight church bells would ring ushering in the holy day, the Hallowe'en celebrations would cease.

Black cats, witches on brooms, dancing skeletons, plain and fancy ghosts, soaping windows, tick-tacks and beggars' night have all been introduced along the way.

The addition of community parties for the children as the evening's program has been quite popular with many municipalities and seems to have relieved some of the youngster's energy and directed it from destructive forms it sometimes takes.

Of course, all the children, and notably the ones a little older than party going age, don't attend and so find their outlet in costly pranks. It is to be hoped that this year's event will be marked in a safe and sane way with destruction being left out of the pranks of everyone.

United Nations Week

As we mark United Nations Week this week we can reflect that more than a decade measures the history of the United Nations organization to date. But the ideals which the U.N. seeks to change from aspiration into fact are as old as the heart of humanity itself. These ideals are as ancient as discrimination, which it wishes to remove; as immemorial as poverty, which it toils to diminish; as old as war which it would ban forever.

The United Nations Organization is not or does it wish to be a world government. Its ultimate objective, of course, is the happiness of the individual; but it is through nations, through governments retaining its full sovereignty, that it operates. The Charter, subscribed to at San Francisco on June 26, 1945, was accepted by delegates of 50 nations representing 1,700,000,000 people.

What purpose has the UN? Hammered out at 400 preliminary sessions, the Charter sets forth the purposes. These are, among other things, the maintenance of international peace and security; the development, on the basis of respect for the principles of self-determination and equal rights, of friendly relations between peoples; the achievement of co-operation in the solving of international problems, economic, social, cultural and humanitarian; the promotion of respect for human rights and freedoms for all without distinction; and the general fostering of harmony between peoples.

These principles are high and it is good that during at least one week we should reflect on them and on our part in their success. Our representatives in these higher fields of international service are the governments we elect. Through them the higher purposes can be carried out only as we encourage the representatives to act. Our understanding of the international organization and its effect can better be used when we are equipped with knowledge to understand it. For that reason United Nations week can serve a very high purpose.

The Well-Laden Tables

Time inevitably serves changes in nearly all our customs and folkways. Sometimes it takes a century or more, sometimes just a generation or even a decade.

In any event there's one good custom that's stood up, altered only a little, from the times of the Pilgrim landing: the harvest feast, or as we know it, "fowl supper".

Of course in the autumns of over two centuries ago the harvest feast was a part of the religious celebration of Thanksgiving. We've retained Thanksgiving, and the feast, but managed to untie the two.

Still today, in Canada and the northern United States, church groups and societies find a fowl supper attracts ardent attention. The basic food—fowl—is still the same, and no doubt the tables strain as mightily under the weight of the other tasty condiments and staples as they did 200 years ago.

Once again the fowl supper season is here. There's sumptuous dishes to be enjoyed in scores of church halls and basements. And there is much conviviality and good-natured neighborliness to be found around these well laden tables.



—Photo by Esther Taylor

On All Hallows' Eve

Chronicles of Ginger Farm

Chestnuts, Leaves Bring Warning

By Gwendoline F. Clarke

It looks as if we shall have a little rain over the week-end—rain that will be very welcome after a rather long dry spell. Not but what we have enjoyed the warm, sunny days—ideal for our little visitors playing outside with their dolls and buggies, Rusty, or whatever else takes their fancy. And you never know... this morning, Partner found the two of them in the dog kennel with Rusty outside chewing a bone. Yesterday Nancy crawled through a rail fence and was discovered heading for the cows. There's never a dull moment around here these days.

The rainless days have resulted in our cistern going dry—that is rainless days, plus the normal requirements of our households; plus daily baths for two small children and big washings every other day. Not that it matters—when the soft water gives out, we connect the hard water to the pressure system and take it from there.

That was the way Partner had it arranged when we put the bathroom in. I remember the plumber saying he had never put in a pressure system that way before and wasn't sure whether it would work. However, he did as Partner directed and it has worked out very well. Never yet have we been short of water, and in a farm home that is saying a lot, since our water supply has to be shared with the livestock.

We know of cases in old farm houses where pressure systems have been installed without due regard to the water supply and in some cases the water gave out.

Few people realize what a thirsty piece of equipment a bathroom can be—especially if there is much entertaining. City visitors, alas, invariably imagine the farm water supply to be unlimited, which can result in an embarrassing situation.

There is a lovely thick carpet of leaves on our front lawn. Nice, crunchy, crackly leaves that rustle as we kick our way through. Popular, chestnut and elm, all mixed up together by drifting winds. And of course there are chestnuts, hundreds of them. Chestnuts that somehow get carried into the house and are found under kitchen chairs and living room furniture. If they stayed under the furniture, it wouldn't be so bad but occasionally they are left in the middle of the floor—and a chestnut isn't the most comfortable thing to step on in a hurry.

Of course, chestnuts and falling leaves bring with them a note of warning... a warning that if we have not already done so, the time has come to replenish the oil tanks or fill up the coal bin. Even on bright, sunny days when night clouds gather, there is a bite in the air that makes us welcome the comfort of a warm home, plus, if we have a set, the entertainment offered by television.

But even TV provides us with problems. Friday nights, for instance, boxing bouts and Persimmon to Person conflict for part of the time. Partner, of course, wants one and I the other. We generally reach a compromise in some way, depending on what each program has to offer. We haven't yet reached the stage of thinking two sets

are necessary! In fact, we think ourselves lucky to have even one. And there are times when one is more than enough if the choice of program is between an inferior play or a variety show.

We are glad Omnibus, Perspective, Fighting Words and Graphic are back on the screen. Of course, we always enjoy the Buffalo University Panel Discussion, also Toronto's Tabloid. And to think that this time last year, we stoutly maintained that we had no desire for television at all. Now we wouldn't be without it for anything—and it certainly comes in handy with small children, if used in moderation. When the small fry have reached the stage of being over-tired and cantankerous, Lassie, Walt Disney or Clarabell invariably save the day.

Tomorrow is going to be another big day in our family. Edward is to be christened and we are all going down for the ceremony. Bob is to be one of the godfathers. Later in the week it will be David's third birthday. How time flies! First a wedding and then a christening; another wedding, another christening—and so it goes. Then come birthdays and anniversaries, extra ones each year and you catch yourself wondering about the dates—have we forgotten this one or that? There seem to be so many to remember and none that we would like to forget.

And at Christmas time, the family gathering gets a little bigger every year so that it is no good as who are after thinking we can dispense with a Christmas tree. Next year a chance! One year we find ourselves in the middle of it all, only with another generation. But think heaven it is a generation we can enjoy without assuming too much responsibility. Grandparents have their place in the home of things but it is not a place of full control. Not like we are now.

THIS SUNDAY'S CHURCH CALENDAR

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Acton, Ontario
Rev. Gordon Adams M.A., B.D.
Minister
Parsonage—29 Bower Avenue
Phone 90
Mr. George Elliott,
Organist and Choir Leader
76 Bower Ave., Acton, phone 6

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28th, 1956

9:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer
10:00 a.m.—Morning Worship
11:15 a.m.—Morning Worship

Rev. W. Harold Young, M.A., B.D., D.D., LL.D., Secretary, Board of College and Students, United Church of Canada
7:00 p.m.—Dr. W. H. Young

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28th, 1956

Laymen's Sunday
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.—Service will be conducted by members of the Brotherhood of Anglican Churchmen.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service in the United Church.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28th, 1956

9:45 a.m.—Church School
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship
Theme: "The Dawning of a New Day"
Evening service withdrawn for Acton United Church Anniversary service.
8:30 p.m.—Young People's Society meeting.

BAPTIST CHURCH ACTON

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28th, 1956

10:00 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship
7:00 p.m.—United Church Anniversary
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 649x.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28th, 1956

10:00 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship
1:30 p.m.—Evangelist Service
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Cottage Prayer meeting and Bible study.

Beautiful Georgetown By Shrub Planting

GEORGETOWN—A planting program which, by next spring, will see 1,000 shrubs and a similar number of perennials in various parts of Georgetown, got underway last week-end.

A joint effort of the horticultural society and town council saw some 200 shrubs planted at various locations in the town park. It was the initial step in a planting program which will also include the stumping of old trees, public library, churches and schools.

Nursery stock has been presented to the horticultural society by the local Dominion Seed House, a generous gesture which will add to Georgetown's beauty with a minimum of cost. A further donation of equipment made by Murt Allison and Tom Beer aided the beautification work.

FIVE GENERATIONS

MONTREAL (CP)—Star performers at a "musical" were Mrs. Bessie Shapiro, 95, and her great-granddaughter, Karen Weinert, 2, when five generations of a Montreal family got together. An inmate of the Jewish Old People's Home here, Mrs. Shapiro has 21 great great grandchildren.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1936

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, October 23, 1936.

The Men's Club of Acton, Y.M.C.A., at its inaugural meeting last night, had a splendid attendance of 60 men and an outstanding speaker, Mr. J. W. Cairns of Toronto. It was held in the gymnasium of the Y and the Ladies' Auxiliary catered. Boy Scouts served.

The Sunderland House, owned by Mr. John Clarke, Toronto, was sold during last week to Mr. V. B. Rumley of Johnstone and Rumley, Funeral Directors, Acton. Mr. Rumley of Johnstone and Rumley, Funeral Directors, Acton, plans to convert this fine old home into a modern funeral home and business. It was originally the residence of the late Mr. W. H. Storey and family, but for several years has been unoccupied. It will not be occupied until next year.

Although the records show that Acton was first settled by the municipalities to have a Boy Scout troop, there has never been a King's Scout until this year. The first boy to attain this signal honor is Jack VanGoozen.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Duke of Devonshire chapter of the I.O.D.E. met to honor a former Regent and Honorary Regent, Mrs. F. E. McLeary, who is moving this week to Brampton.

The seventh annual Girls' Conference, under the direction of the Women's Institute of the county, was held in Milton High School auditorium last Saturday.

Little Aurel Johat, the Mighty Atom of hockey, has been signed up for his 15th straight season with the Montreal Canadiens.

Monday night—20 degrees above zero. And residents of Erin claim it was 12. Frozen radiators and other articles standing out of doors were common.

The plant of Ajax Engineering is now working overtime on the large orders with which the plant is now faced. The contract for the International Nickel Works at Port Colborne requires many carloads of imported lumber.

Among the lucky sportsmen was Harold McIntyre, who bagged a wild goose from a flock on the farm of Mr. Hugh McCutcheon. It is not often that flocks stop in this district but they settled in the field for an hour.

BACK IN 1906

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, October 25, 1906.

Our teachers are appreciated. The Board of Education has voluntarily increased salaries of the lady teachers who were up for re-employment at this week's meeting. Miss Annie King, 2nd department, was re-engaged at \$450; Miss Mattie Smith, 3rd department; Miss Minnie Holmes, 4th department; Miss Kate Kennedy, 5th department, at \$350.

Five of the young Scotchman who came to Acton this summer have left for British Columbia.

Mr. C. F. Goodeve sent to the Free Press on Tuesday a sample of very creditable peanuts grown in his garden on Main St.

If the young men who practice speeding their saddle horses on Mill St. would go to the course at the park, they would run less risk of serious injury to pedestrians and to possible arrest for illegal conduct.

The "Ideal Minstrels" will be at the town hall next Monday night. Lovers of good music should not fail to take this in. All rush seats 25c.—Adv.

After a long and tedious illness, death came to Peter McDonald, yeoman, who has lived on the Lashby farm from the time he purchased it 14 years ago. Mr. McDonald was a man of sterling character and enjoyed universal esteem. He came to Canada in 1856. He was married to Miss Eliza Mann, who survives him with five of their seven children.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Henderson, M.P., arrived home on Tuesday morning after a very enjoyable 12 week trip to Great Britain. They toured England and Scotland by easy stages and also took a trip over to Dublin and paid their respects to Lord Aberdeen.

One of the most pleasing evenings to which the Acton public have been treated for some time was given in Knox church last Thursday night. The ladies of the church are widely known as superior cooks and at the tea provided in the basement after the Thanksgiving concert, they more than sustained their good reputation. A photo of a threshing outfit at Indian Head is in the Free Press window and has been viewed by many.

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 78 Residence 115 Church St. E. Phone 154	E. L. BUCHNER, R.O. Optometrist 48 Mill St. E. Phone 115 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	LEGAL C. F. LEATHERLAND, Q.C. Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public Office Hours: 10:00 am-12:00 p.m. 1:00 pm- 5:00 p.m. Saturdays by appointment only Office 22 Phone 8 — 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 1 Main St. N. 44 Victoria St. Brampton 2478; 251 EM 4-9181
DR. A. J. BUCHANAN Dental Surgeon Office Leishman Block, Mill St. Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. X-RAY Telephone 148	MISCELLANEOUS Heated Ambulance RUMLEY FUNERAL HOME Phone 690 night or day Phone 6—Shoemaker, Mgr.
DR. H. LEIB Dental Surgeon Office: Corner Mill and Friedrich Streets Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. TELEPHONE 29—ACTON	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
F. L. WRIGHT 20 Water St. Acton, Ontario Phone 95 Appraiser, Real Estate and Insurance	TRAVELLERS' GUIDE GRAY COACH LINES COACHES LEAVE ACTON Standard Time Eastbound 8:45 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hols.); 8:58 a.m.; 11:32 a.m.; 2:06 p.m.; 5:04 p.m.; 6:33 p.m.; 8:30 p.m.; 10:08 p.m. (Sun. and Hols.). 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 Hols.)
WM. R. BRACKEN INSURANCE AGENCY 8 Mill Street Phone 26 Res 553r GENERAL INSURANCE	CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS Standard Time Eastbound Daily 6:40 a.m.; Daily except Sunday 10:10 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 8:20 a.m.; 6:55 p.m. (flag stop); 7:49 p.m.; Saturday only 7:25 p.m.; Sunday only 8:43 a.m. (flag stop); Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 7:05 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. 6:10 p.m.
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