

The Acton Free Press

The only paper ever published in Acton



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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd, 1956

Safety Need, Project Result

With the completion of the town's paving program approaching, there seems to have been little but commendation of the project. Undoubtedly the improved road system leads to better driving and less wear and tear on the vehicles that use the local streets. Roads and road conditions have been a problem of municipalities since the wheel was developed, we imagine.

The speed with which the wheel revolves has been a problem that can be attributed to the improvements in travel. No doubt the speed at which wheels on Acton streets will revolve will be increased considerably by the new pavement.

Parents will have to exercise more care in keeping children off streets just as motorists will have to subdue the urge to travel at maximum speed on the new pavement.

The erection of signs urging safety will have little effect if motorists do not exercise proper care in watching for children. Similarly, if parents don't keep closer watch on children a low accident rate may get higher.

The improvement of the town's road system has evoked a surprising number of favorable comments. It would seem that often municipal projects garner their share of criticism and praise but so far we haven't heard any serious objections to the road paving program.

The urgency of safety following the program is the most direct outgrowth of the project, however.

Picture Indeed Confused

Now they sail and now they don't. Perhaps that might sum up the situation of confusion that has existed in reports of the Middle East crisis. The sailing, of course, refers to the on-again off-again plans for Canadian troops to go to the Middle East as part of the U.N. police force.

The thousands of words that have been written on this crisis that can quite easily develop into a third world war, have not cleared the picture for the on-the-street observer like ourselves.

If the heads of countries become a little crusty with the constant barrage of questions poured at them by reports we can understand, just as we can understand the job of the newsman in reporting every event to an anxious people.

It does, however, become increasingly clear to us that Britain and France acted wisely although the wisdom of armed intervention is always open to challenge. It does seem, however, that the armed intervention, far more effectively than words at the U.N., prevented a build-up in the middle east that would have resulted in the annihilation of Israel. It would also have ignited the tinder of world opinion that could have exploded into World War III.

It has now been revealed that the arms and vehicles captured in the Israel advances were far greater than had been anticipated and the only thing lacking seemed to be the men to operate it all.

It would seem most unreasonable to compare the English-French position with that of Russia in Hungary. The problem there was not one of threatened annihilation but one of a desire for freedom from the position of subservience that has been forced on them as a satellite.

The world confusion is indeed confused. It is not possible for us to determine the wisdom of all the present moves from all the flood of words poured at us over the radio and through the daily press.

It might, however, be a time to look at our local civil defense organization.

It is the men who take the time out from their leisure hours that give the youngsters of the community an opportunity to play hockey. It is a well-known fact that the majority of hockey stars playing in the big leagues come from the smaller communities. It is the same small communities, with men working hard and long hours, that are giving these young hopefuls their big chance.—Geraldton (Ont.) Times Star.

Help or Hindrance

A report of the United States Department of Commerce—throws some new light on the trading stamp business.

To operate a typical stamp plan, it says, costs between two per cent. and three per cent. of gross sales. Hence to make the deal profitable a merchant must be able to boost his total sales volume by 25 per cent. or be prepared to hike prices to cover the extra cost of stamps. If he is unable to meet either of these conditions then the stamp plan is merely added cost that the merchant himself must absorb.

That being the case, then the merchant serving a limited territory and facing keen competition may find that instead of rejuvenating his business the trading stamp plan has brought him a lot of trouble.

Finally, warns this report, like the hunter with the tiger by the tail, "it is difficult for a merchant to drop stamp plans once they are started".

A Worthy Activity

The annual interest in public speaking and debating generated through the schools as well as through the Junior Farmer organization is an effort of considerable merit.

There are many indeed who certainly do not welcome an opportunity to stand on their feet and thank a speaker or introduce one. Faced with an audience, even though they are all personal friends, there is always a cold shiver when one has to stand and speak.

Certainly in this age where expression of opinion is of such vital concern public speaking is a necessary study. Naturally some excel at it while others continue through life with that cold shiver that runs up and down the back when they are called on.

The training young people get through the school contests and Junior Farmer contest can not help but be beneficial in later years when they may be called on to accept positions of responsibility in various organizations. Probably more hours are wasted at meetings in a year through inability to express oneself adequately than for any other reason.

For that reason, in itself the activities of these groups in fostering public speaking and debating are indeed commendable.

County Committee Wise

The formation of a county committee on planning with representatives from each municipality in the county is a wise one. Its wisdom will be proven, however, only when co-operation on the part of all municipalities has been indicated.

Planning and zoning are not things that can adequately be handled simply within a municipality's boundaries. It is essential that the boundary line not become a kind of high board fence beyond which no one is particularly interested.

Not only is it imperative that planning be well integrated between municipalities but it is just as important that some spirit of co-operation exist in the planning for the mutual benefit of all towns and townships.

The decision not to hire a planning consultant for the county group is based mainly on the fact that each municipality already is paying well for their consultants and the added expense would not seem justified. On this point we can agree since the problem as set out becomes one of co-operation between neighboring representatives and that is something no consultant can alter.

No doubt some areas will hesitate to begin planning since it cannot be done without some expense. In most cases where planning has been in action for some time the reaction has been that money could have been saved if it had been started earlier rather than wait for development to force its consideration.

A surprising number of people want a home in the country and in some cases this can lead to complications. Establishment of a number of houses in rural areas can lead to school, fire protection and other administrative problems.

With Halton one of the most rapidly developing counties in the Niagara Peninsula it is imperative that county planning establish firm channels for consideration of mutual boundary problems. But co-operation is the only way.

Brief Comment

Admitting that the danger of inflation which the rise in the bank rate was meant to alleviate is present in some areas, officialdom now must face the problem of whether this particular cure is not worse than the disease. It must also consider some other anti-inflationary measure might better achieve the desired result.—Campbellton (N.B.) Tribune.

One reason that makes winter so objectionable to many people is that they spend all fall worrying about it. To follow the advice of one person who has overcome this objection and now enjoys all seasons is very simple and effective. . . . This person simply dresses warm when it is cold, and cool when it is warm.—Rainy River (Ont.) Record.



—Photo by Esther Taylor

and Indians

Chronicles of Ginger Farm

Young, Old Enjoy Santa's Parade

Who are the real children — the youngsters or the grown-ups? Sometimes we wonder. Take the Santa Claus Parade. Why are mothers and fathers — yes, and even grandparents — so willing to take youngsters to watch the parade that heralds Santa Claus' entry into town? Why, indeed, unless it is that "kiddies and grown-ups too-o-o" enjoy equally well all the fun and excitement of the big event. Even if it is only possible to watch it on television, you find just as many oldsters as youngsters among the viewers.

I must admit Partner and I are among those who share in the fun Saturday morning. For instance, we dropped our work and spent part of the morning watching Eat-on's Annual Santa Claus Parade. For the children, there is all the excitement and fan-fare, but I really think it takes an adult to appreciate the beauty, the pageantry and the ingenuity that makes the parade what it is.

And what a wonderful touch of fun and fantasy it brings into our everyday world. A world which of late has brought little but anxiety and distrust to the minds of men, particularly to those who remember the pattern that preceded two former world wars. We must, therefore, carry on with our daily work, but we certainly welcome any distraction that takes us out of ourselves and makes us feel gay and carefree for awhile. What a dull world it would be if we lacked the power of enjoyment. Imagine seeing a beautiful sunset, a painting or children at play and yet not have the awareness to enjoy it.

A beast that has been beaten into submission is liable to give trouble for some time. That, happily, seldom happens on Canadian farms today. Almost every farmer loves his livestock, particularly his cattle—and horses, if he has them. He may call them "ornery creatures" and make other uncomplimentary remarks, but just let one of them get sick and the farmer will forego a night's rest to keep watch over his sick animals at any time. And yet neither the farmer nor his family can afford to get overly sentimental about the livestock because the time inevitably comes when age or barn-room makes it necessary for some of the stock to be sold. That is the situation we are faced with this morning. At this very moment, a truck is down at the barn loading cattle, all of whom Partner has raised from heifer calves born right here on the farm. We hate to think of them ending their lives at the stockyards. But there is no alternative. They have fulfilled their usefulness as milk cows and for breeding purposes, but I suppose, they will still make beef of a kind. Two of them certainly will as they are being sold as butcher heifers, so there should be a few good steaks on the market.

And so activity begins again after an unusually quiet week-end. We looked for the Toronto folks, but David had a touch of stomach flu, so they didn't come. Maybe the flu was the result of too much excitement. His parents took him to the Royal Winter Fair and while they were watching the saddle horses, one man asked Dave if he would like a ride. Dave, being crafty about horses, was all for it. Art lifted him onto the horse's back and the fellow took him around the ring. It is doubtful if any horse ever had a prouder moment!

As for the other small fry, Bob took Babs and the children to London on Sunday, their last visit before leaving for Elliott Lake. When that will be depends on how soon their house will be ready. Watching day by day developments on a house you are waiting to occupy must be quite an ordeal, besides having to move into it before it has a chance to settle. However, you would at least be on hand to discover, and remedy, the weak spots in the plaster.

Ah, there goes the truck with our cattle, a little bit of Ginger Farm that we shall never see again. We still have a few left but not very many. Among them are our pet cow heifers, the six at present pasturing near the back of the house. I don't think what would happen these days if Partner still had ten or twelve cows to milk.

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, NOVEMBER 25th, 1956
9:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer
10:00 a.m.—Junior Church and Church School
11:15 a.m.—Morning Worship.

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25th, 1956
SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT
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.—Morning Prayer.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Prayer.

More than 55,000 Canadians make their living in the Canadian telephone industry which is provided by some 2,800 separate systems.

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25th, 1956
9:45 a.m.—Church School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service.
8:15 p.m.—B.Y.O.B. Fellowship.

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25th, 1956
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service.
8:15 p.m.—B.Y.O.B. Fellowship.
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, NOVEMBER 25th, 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.

Recalls Old Days In Postal Office

Winnipeg (CP) — "That was an odd one," said Dick Barr, recalling the first warehouse the Post Office department constructed here.

"When they built it they installed the vaults first, then shipped the rest of the warehouse in sections from Ottawa and assembled it over the vaults."

Mr. Barr retired this year after 53 years with the post office, and his customs branch. He started work at 15 in "that strange warehouse" and in 1931 was transferred to the customs branch.

During his 35 years in the postal customs he estimated he handled 35,000,000 parcels, which included everything from bird's nests mailed from China to leopard and lion skins from Africa.

He says some parcels did not have to be opened to discover their contents. "Parcels from Italy often announced their arrival. Italians are famous for sending 'high' cheese to relatives in Canada," said Mr. Barr.

He says it is impossible to examine every parcel and usually an average of one-in-twenty are opened. Fellow employees presented him with a velvet case, lined with newly-minted silver dollars — one for every year of service.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1936

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, November 28, 1936

Negotiations have been completed this week whereby ex-warden A. Mason secured the property known locally as Corporation Pond from Mr. J. Bell, who has owned it for several years. The water rights are of real importance to Mr. Mason in the manufacture of underwear and it is also essential that the dam be properly maintained to avoid flooding his factory. Mr. Mason plans to improve the property but it is not yet decided what form the improvement will take.

St. Alban's Men's Club Dixie Revue was a typical minstrel show with all the old favorites. It is quite evident Acton audiences like the minstrel, because the attendance last night at the town hall was one of the best this season. The quartette were Messrs Simpson, Masales, Clifford and Spielvogel. Soloists were E. Archer, Bob Anderson and the Weaver sisters. Messrs. Stothard, Cotton and Albert Loutitt tickled the guitars and Bob Hall appeared in mouth organ and guitar numbers. Tom Holman rattled the bones. The end men were Eric Cules, Charles Wilson, Jack McGeachie, Bill Coleman, Jim Smith and Harry Jeans. A Lindsay was the interloper. Mr. B. Mason was director and Chas. Lamborough pianist.

At the meeting of council on Monday night, it was reported by the Municipal Officer that the arena was badly in need of repairs.

The work of putting the ice surface on the arena has already commenced.

The boys and girls have had some splendid skating on Corporation Pond this week.

The Senior Girls' Club was organized at the YMCA at a supper meeting on Tuesday. Officers were elected as follows: president, Betty Watts; vice-president, La Verne Smith; secretary, Frances Dills; treasurer, Jean Lambert. The leaders are Messrs. Mary Chalmers and Dorothy MacPherson.

When Jones delivery horse was bitten by a dog and ran away Monday night, a number of accidents were narrowly averted but fortunately, nothing worse resulted than a broken harness and a damaged vehicle.

BACK IN 1906

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, November 22, 1906

J. A. Tracy, licensing inspector, has received a dastardly letter which contains a coward's threat. "If something happens, you will have yourself to blame," Mr. Tracy answers. "Now, Mr. Editor, if this man thinks he can frighten me out of doing my duty he mistakes the man he has to deal with, and if he intends to take a shot at me as I am a crack shot myself" Who wrote the letter?

The annual public function given under the auspices of the teachers and students of the High School on Thursday last was a gratifying success. The capacity of the town hall was taxed. Glees were creditably sung by the Glee Club of upwards of 25 students. Mr. Owen A. Smiley rendered humorous and tragic readings with splendid character delineations. The solos by Miss Bertie Smith and Miss Jessie Nicklin, local girls, are always appreciated. Both were recalled for encores.

The tableau sung by two young ladies and 12 young gentlemen, the *Patrol in nooses* uniforms and the latter in military regimentals, was very well put on. The tableau represented a military camp with the flag and the soldiers lying at ease with the sentry pacing in front and the horses attending a wounded officer. The soldier boys sang with good effect the well known camping song, *Tenting*.

Miss Gray was the accompanist for the evening. A feature was the presentation of diplomas by H. P. Moore. Receiving their matriculation were Halston Brown and Vincent Goodley. The proceeds of the concert were upwards of \$88.

The young folk enjoyed their first skating of the season last Thursday Both Fairy Lake and Corporation Pond were in fine condition.

80 additional boxes have been put in to fill the demand at the post office.

There was a big smash in the rail yards at Georgetown Saturday morning. A double header crashed with tremendous force into a standing train. The fire brigade was called and the injured taken by train to Guelph later.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

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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	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. LETHERLAND, 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 105-151 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 Phones: 2478 EM 4-9131
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