

## The Acton Free Press

The only paper ever published in Acton



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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28th, 1957

### A Few Days in Ottawa

The editor last week spent three days in Ottawa and, strange as it may seem, never for a moment got up to the Parliament buildings where the House of Commons is in session. The occasion was the semi-annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the weekly newspapers across Canada. With such a wide-spread group one may sometimes acquire a wider knowledge than from those in the capital of the Dominion.

People associated with the government do not stay continuously at the Parliament buildings and many outside the government play important roles in government policy. For instance, the Farmers' Federation had just presented their annual presentation to the government and at luncheon one day the president, Mr. H. H. Hannam, explained the brief and enlightened the group on the farmer's position in Canada's economy. The brief must have been helpful to the government in its study of the farmer's position.

At another luncheon there were 15 or 20 government officials present and it was a privilege to meet and converse with many of them. Those at the various meals sat at tables of six. That day at the table we sat at was a senior official of the post office department, a public relations man, an official of an advertising agency and the newspaper men were from Nova Scotia, Alberta and Ontario.

We heard briefly from the heads of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and last but by no means last were treated to an address by Hon. Lester B. Pearson. The address was informative on the work of the United Nations but in addition, after the address, Mr. Pearson gave an opportunity for an off-the-record question period. The discussion was carried on in the lobby by groups after the banquet and listening to it one could readily understand why the minister has so successfully represented Canada at the sessions of the United Nations. He frankly discussed his stand in such a way that it was difficult to find disagreement in spite of the fact that you may have had adverse opinions on certain actions. His presence at the gathering was no doubt one of the highlights.

### Something for Nothing

The introduction of trading stamps into Canada is meeting with mixed reception. It has been in operation in the United States for some time and can get some beneficial study here. It appears that it adds one to two per cent. to the cost of goods where it is applied, and, of course, the customer ultimately must pay this cost.

The Federation of Agriculture in its brief to the government says:

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture wishes to ally itself with those who are opposed to permitting the use of trading stamps, and strongly urges action which will require the discontinuation of this merchandizing abuse. The distribution of these stamps with food purchases represents a type of compulsory buying, at high cost, from a restricted selection of products, and the practice of representing these stamps as free premiums is a wholly misleading practice.

From Nova Scotia a publisher told us that in his town gold stamps were introduced with exclusive use to one group of merchants. A few weeks later another colored stamp plan was sold to another group of merchants. Some weeks later a third group was granted exclusive rights to another colored trading stamp. Investigation showed that all three colored stamps were operated in the United States by one group.

From Manitoba we learned that the trading stamp business was now being studied in the courts in an effort to make them illegal in that province. When you feel that prices are high and complain that the cost of living is advancing, remember that there are many items which contribute. Maybe you are paying for something you do not want. Remember, there are no give-aways.

### Welcome Announcement

Last week's announcement that what appeared to be quite an acceptable new water supply had been found is indeed a welcome one crowning many months and several years of searching.

It seems that water is a pretty important requirement for a town. Industry is requiring more water and new industry always seeks water supply information as one of the basic requisites.

A search for additional water supplies has resulted in many holes being drilled around the town. Naturally, the closer the source is to the present town mains the less costly it might be to gain immediate benefit by getting the supply ready for the heavy consumption summer months.

Acton has been well known for its good water supply but, of course, it has also been well known that the water is pretty hard. For that reason it is comforting to learn that preliminary field tests indicate a softer water has been found.

The main feature of the new water supply appears to have been perseverance because councils have been aggressively continuing the search over the past several years.

Of course, Department of Health tests have not been completed but the original field tests have indicated the water is acceptable and this is certainly to be hoped for. Water mains are a requisite on Churchill Road North anyway and if the source can be located in that area the one main trunk line could serve the householders on that road, providing them with a town service many of them will be pleased to obtain.

If the water supply is acceptable naturally a water reservoir will be considered in the ultimate plans but it might be delayed for a year or two if the pipeline could be installed early. Delay of the reservoir construction in the light of the present "tight money" market should not, however, put it on the shelf indefinitely since keeping municipal services up to the demand is a very necessary part of municipal development.

### You Pay Anyway

The budget brought down by the Provincial government last week was a very fine illustration of give and take for the people of Ontario. There is an illusion in the minds of many electors that governments can hand out grants and give assistance to many bodies and numerous appeals and still hold the line on tax levies. The only source of government funds is from taxation of the people. The surpluses that have been reported for several years have apparently reached the bottom. It is estimated the new revenue will amount to about \$18 per head of Ontario population.

On the give side more assistance will be given municipalities, school boards and other local agencies which should reflect in your local tax rate. Such increased amount is \$33.7 million or 19 per cent.

The assistance to municipalities comes in a number of ways such as the province's contribution to Teachers' Superannuation, school grants, per capita allowances, welfare costs, grants on roads, etc. which will keep municipal clerks and board secretaries busy for some little time figuring out just what it all amounts to when brought down to the level of the municipality's tax rate. Just whether you as an individual gain or lose you will probably never actually be able to ascertain.

For instance, if you are a farmer or residential taxpayer you will share in an unconditional grant. If you drive a car or diesel-powered vehicle you will pay more than the fellow who walks. After going roughly through the sheaf of papers that outline the proposed budget changes your or our position tax-wise is as much obscure as ever.

One thing is certain that all the benefits you derive from government assistance can only be acquired by your contribution to the common levies which at various levels take in everyone. You have little choice in the division and no choice in your category of payment.

### Brief Comment

It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good. For Canada, European tribulations mean, or should mean, a gain of many thousands of potential new citizens in the months ahead. —Campbellton (N.B.) Tribune.

If this civilization, which has given us the highest standard of living the world has ever known, is to survive, labor and management will, have to take their full measure of responsibility. It can be done through the process of democracy. —Stanstead (Que.) Journal.

We are selecting the best from all the cultures brought to our shores and blending them into a useful, peaceful and comfortable way of life. This process will continue to enrich all of us if we continue to regard all Canadians as brothers under the law which governs us. That is Brotherhood for peace and freedom. —Lachute (Que.) Watchman.



Willow Branches Brush the Snow

### Chronicles of Ginger Farm

## Spring is in the Air

By Geraldine F. Clarke

For a few days last week, the air had a really springish feeling. The birds thought so too. Bluejays left the shelter of the woods and took to the highways. What they hoped to find on the roads I don't know but they were certainly exploring. Sparrows swarmed around the bushes, happily chirping in bird language, defying the juncos and chickadees. Squirrels were in a playful mood, cotton-tails out looking for food.

This morning Rusty was terribly noisy. I said to Partner, "What in the world is Rusty barking at?" Partner laughed. "Probably a rabbit. He saw one yesterday and didn't know what to make of it. Finally took after it but kept his distance in case the rabbit might bite."

Yes, that's our Rusty — the best watchdog, and the best dog with children we have ever had, but hasn't the slightest idea about hunting. Mitchie-White has forgotten the art too, probably too well fed to bother. He watched a mouse run across the kitchen floor today and wasn't even interested. The other day when a little mouse practically crossed his path he did manage to catch it. Then he let it go again and looked surprised when the mouse disappeared down a hole. And yet when I catch a mouse in a trap he is quite ready to eat it. Would anyone like a good mousetrap?

Maybe our Mitchie gets as confused over mice as we do over weather forecasts. A monthly farm magazine came out with a long range weather forecast which said, "below normal temperatures are expected for all Ontario." A few days later, a 30 day forecast appeared in the daily paper which said, "average to above normal temperatures may be expected."

But the road reports are what get me down. "All highways bare and driving conditions good." So what happens? You start out on a good highway en route to visit a friend in a nearby city. Except for places where melting snowbanks make the road slushy, you get along fine. You forget your friend lives in a subdivision on a gravelled road. But you are not likely to forget after you've been there. The clean car you started out with is covered in slush. Gravelly deposits hit your mudguards and under-carriage. Salt riddles a hole in your muffler.

And then after you reach home, miraculously safe and sound, you hear again that repetitious road report — "highways bare, driving conditions good—at least on roads you are likely to travel," adds the news reporter. Now I ask you, how does any reporter know what roads you are likely to travel? What of the thousands of commuters in and out of suburban districts? What of the friends who set out to visit them? What of the farm lanes before you hit the highway? What of the county and township roads?

So don't be misled by radio road reports. All roads are not high, ways better be smart and stay home if you can until gravel roads have had a chance to improve. After all, the Frost government has given us every encouragement to give the car a rest by boosting gasoline two cents a gallon. The trouble is what we would like to do isn't always possible. You may cut out pleasure jaunts but you can't cut out business trips.

Anyway, this is the beginning of March so we can expect unpleasant weather. But while it is admittedly bad underfoot, that springish feeling in the air should be encouraging. And the days are getting long.

It might be a good debate for your local W.I.

### LIMEHOUSE

## Baking Sale, Euchre Sponsored by W.A.

The W.A. sponsored a very successful sale of home made baking and a euchre in Limehouse Memorial Hall. Winners were Mrs. N. Snyder and Neilson Stark with seconds going to Mrs. Jessie McEneaney and Lloyd McEneaney. Fifteen tables of cards were played, and the ladies served lunch afterwards. Mrs. Campbell Stelclair entertained her Sunday school class at her home following a tobogganing party.

Marilyn Patterson of Rockwood spent the week-end with her cousin, Joy Patterson, here.

Mr. and Mrs. R. McDonald of Kirkland Lake spent the week-end with her sister, Mrs. N. Quibell, her husband and family.

The W.M.S. meeting was held at the home of Mrs. A. W. Norton on Thursday evening when the text word, "Prayer" was answered as roll call. Miss Ivens read her well prepared paper on Prayer. Mrs. Patterson led in prayer and scripture was read by Miss Ivens. Mrs. Roughley contributed a piano solo, Souvenirs, and Mrs. A. W. Norton sang Jesus Remembers. The hostess served lunch after the meeting to the 12 attending.

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS

### BACK IN 1907

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, February 28, 1907

The church anniversaries are again over and have been, as in years past, occasions of great interest. Acton is not, however, without its good preachers, and large congregations that gather weekly in the churches only goes to prove the charm of the gospel.

During the first seven weeks of the year, Messrs Beardmore and Co. received 7,000 cords of hemlock bark from the forests of the northland.

The communication read at the council meeting Monday night from Acton town council, was in reference to the second hand fire engine owned by the city. The committee have as yet not held a meeting so that no answer has been sent to Acton council — Guelph Herald. There must be some mistake about this. Acton doesn't want any second hand fire engine when it has its own fire hall a first class steam engine.

The kitchen and washhouse of the house at the corner of Mill and John Sts., the site of the new Johnstone block has been torn down. This house has a history. It was the first house erected on Mill St. after it was opened and was built by Ezra Adams a nephew of the founders of the town.

The lot formed a part of the farm of the late Rufus Adams.

The new Sunday Law passed at last session of the Dominion Parliament, comes into force next Sunday. The United States Sunday papers cannot be sold legally in this country nor will the so-called Sunday World be procurable from news carriers on the Sunday trains.

All unnecessary Sunday work is prohibited under severe penalties. Seven of the shops in town which are not on the metres were blazing with light last Sunday. Why this waste of current?

An overcoat comes in handy these days, doesn't it? If you haven't one come to me and I will make you a nice one at a reasonable cost. One that will fit you too. Or a suit. W. Cooper, the Tailor. Month of March tomorrow.

### BACK IN 1937

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, March 5, 1937.

The purchase of the Blue Springs property by the Provincial Council of the Boy Scouts Association was an item of local interest. The property comprises a hundred acres. It was operated quite successfully for some years as a park by Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Murray, the owners of the farm.

The scout camp will be used for scout training groups. The purchase price was \$3,500. Mr. George Mason, scoutmaster of the First Acton Troop, has been named to supervise and develop the property.

The highway through Acton will require some attention this spring. The surface applied last summer was a little thin.

Lakeside Chapter I.O.D.E. are arranging a Coronation dance for May 12. Watch for particulars.

The ice carnival by Acton Citizens' Band last evening in the arena was staged in the excitement of hockey play-offs. The Georgetown Band supplied a splendid program of music.

From "The Old Man of the Big Clock Tower" column — My last series of reviews, took up Main Street as far as the C.N.R. tracks. That same Main Street railway crossing has been a dangerous point ever since it was built 81 years ago. Why it was ever made a level crossing it has bothered my old head to determine. There never was a better place for a subway anywhere. And the railway builders of those old days conveyed train loads of gravel to make approaches which at the crossing must have had 14 or 15 feet of depth to fill in.

In the early days, the section of Acton above the railway was dubbed "Shingletown" because most of the houses were owned by employees of the two shingle mills. Just over the track on the east side of Main Street there was an entrance to the property which was first a tannery, then a shingle mill. After serving his apprenticeship as a tanner, William Hlemstreet built a tannery on this property and a residence where Mr. Wesley Masales' brick house now stands. This tannery he operated for a number of years but business failed and he left it and built a tannery at Crewson's Corners.

## PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

MEDICAL	MISCELLANEOUS
<b>DR. W. G. C. KENNEY</b> Physician and Surgeon Office in Symon Block, 43A Mill St. E., Acton Office Phone 38 Residence 115 Church St. E. Phone 138	<b>RUMLEY FUNERAL HOME</b> Phone 690 night or day Bruce E. Shoemaker, Mgr.
<b>DR. D. A. GARRETT</b> Physician and Surgeon Corner of Willow and River Sts. Entrance River Street Acton, Ontario Phone 238	<b>OLIVE M. LAMPARD</b> A.T.C.M. R.M.T. Teacher of Piano ACTON STUDIO St. Alban's Parish Hall 14 PARK AVE., GUELPH Phone TA 2-3514
<b>DR. ROBERT D. BUCKNER</b> Physician and Surgeon 39 Wellington St., Acton, Ont. Phone 579 Office Hours 6-8 p.m.	<b>AUDITING - ACCOUNTING</b>  <b>W. H. BIGGS, F.C.I. (Eng.)</b> Accredited Public Accountant Georgetown Telephone 7-3351 Successor to A. J. Bishop, C.P.A.
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<b>J. BERT WOOD</b> INSURANCE AGENCY Life and General Insurance Phone 585 After hours TA 4-3980, Guelph	<b>LEGAL</b>  <b>C. F. LEATHERLAND, Q.C.</b> Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public Office Hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Saturdays by appointment only Office 22 - Phone Res. 151 ACTON
<b>DR. H. LEIB</b> Dental Surgeon Office - Corner Mill and Frederick Streets Office Hours - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. TELEPHONE 19 - ACTON	<b>TRAVELLERS' GUIDE</b>  <b>GRAY COACH LINES</b> COACHES LEAVE ACTON  Standard Time Eastbound 6:33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol.); 8:58 a.m.; 11:33 a.m.; 2:08 p.m.; 5:06 p.m.; 6:33 p.m.; 8:33 p.m.; 10:08 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.). Westbound 10:27 a.m.; 12:57 p.m.; 2:57 p.m.; 5:27 p.m.; 7:57 p.m.; 9:12 p.m.; 11:32 p.m.; 11:2 a.m. (Fri., Sat., Sun. and Hol.)
<b>DR. A. J. BUCHANAN</b> Dental Surgeon Office - 5A Mill Street Office Hours - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Wednesday afternoon Telephone 148	<b>CANADIAN NATIONAL</b> RAILWAYS Standard Time Eastbound Daily 6:40 a.m.; Daily except Sunday 10:00 a.m.; 1:15 p.m.; Sunday only 9:01 p.m.; Daily except Sun- day Flyer at Georgetown 9:02 a.m.; 6:37 p.m. - Daily Flyer at Geor- getown 10:11 p.m.
<b>DR. F. G. OAKES, B.V. Sc.</b> Veterinarian Office and Residence 24 Knox Ave. Acton - Phone 130	Westbound Daily 11:44 p.m.; Daily except Sunday 8:30 a.m.; 8:55 p.m. (flag- stop); 7:49 p.m.; Saturday only 1:25 p.m.; Sunday only 9:43 a.m. (flag- stop); Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 7:55 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. 6:10 p.m.
<b>B. D. YOUNG, B.V. Sc.</b> <b>C. L. YOUNG, D.V.M.</b> Veterinary Surgeons Office: Brookville, Ontario Phone-Milton TR 8-0177	

## THIS SUNDAY'S CHURCH CALENDAR

<b>BAPTIST CHURCH</b> ACTON Rev. Ray H. Costerus, Pastor. Parsonage 115 Bower Ave. Phone 208r  SUNDAY, MARCH 3rd, 1957 10:00 a.m. - Sunday School 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship 7:30 p.m. - Evangelistic Service 8:15 p.m. - B.Y.F.U.	<b>UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA</b> Acton, Ontario Rev. Gordon Adams M.A. B.D. Minister Parsonage - 29 Bower Avenue Phone 60  Mr. George Elliott, Organist and Choir Leader, 76 Bowler Ave., Acton, phone 6
<b>ACTON PENTECOSTAL</b> ASSEMBLY Meeting in the Y.M.C.A. Pastor - Rev. K. R. Reid, 81 Cook St., Telephone 640r.  SUNDAY, MARCH 3rd, 1957 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.	<b>THE ANGLICAN CHURCH</b> OF CANADA St. Alban's Church, Acton, Ont. Rev. Evan H. Jones, B.A., L.Th. Rector  SUNDAY, MARCH 3rd, 1957 (QUINQUAGESIMA) 9:00 a.m. - Holy Communion. 9:45 a.m. - Church School and Bible Class. 11:00 a.m. - Beginners' Class. 11:00 a.m. - Choral Communion. 7:00 p.m. - Evensong. Wednesday, March 6 (Ash Wednesday), 9 a.m. - Holy Communion.
<b>PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH</b> IN CANADA KNOX CHURCH, ACTON Rev. Andrew K. McKenzie, B.A., B.D.  SUNDAY, MARCH 3rd, 1957 9:45 a.m. - Church School 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship 7:30 p.m. - Evening Service 8:00 p.m. - Senior High Fellowship at the Manse. Minister's Confirmation Class each Wednesday at 7 p.m.	