

The Acton Free Press

The only paper ever published in Acton



Founded in 1875 and published every Thursday at 10 Mill St., Acton, Ont. Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations, the C.W.N.A. and the Ontario-Quebec Division of the C.W.N.A. Advertising rates on request. Subscriptions payable in advance, \$3.00 in Canada, \$4.00 in the United States; six months \$17.50, single copies 7c. Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

Published by the Dille Printing and Publishing Co. Limited
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Business and Editorial Office - 1th 800 Acton

THURSDAY, MARCH 14th, 1957

You are the One Source

The last couple of weeks have had events which may have bothered the taxpayer depending on just where he or she lives. In Ontario we know of certain additional taxes which have been applied at the provincial level. We are told of certain grants which were not clear enough to be explained to the municipal clerks throughout the province. In fact, it will likely mean a delay in issuing the municipal tax bills.

If you live in Alberta there is a likelihood of getting \$22 per head for all over 21 years of age provided you have lived there for the last five years. Of course, you may be taxed by the Dominion government on this additional amount.

If you live in Quebec we're not sure what your tax position will be but we met a fellow recently who moved his business to Ontario to avoid the multiple taxes he was subject to. We offered him no hope that moving would solve his problem.

Yet to come is the municipal tax levy and the federal announcement of its budget of relief or further tax burdens. By spring you may have all the figures. We doubt if the average citizen will know if his tax position is better or worse than it was last year. One thing is clear, or should be, to every citizen—that money is not made by governments. You are the source of every bit which the government at some level administers. If you want more services, more help, you must be prepared to pay for it.

Actonians Get it De luxe

Last week it appeared that Canada was about ready to take another step in what is now familiarly known as "cradle to the grave" service. The majority of the provinces are apparently ready to adopt national health insurance within the next two years.

Of course, we have now baby bonuses, mothers' allowances, relief, and old age pensions. Now with sickness to be provided for there seems hardly any necessity to provide for the "rainy day" which used to be a time that wiped out savings of sunny days.

Perhaps Acton is a bit unique in the latest service that is proposed. If you live in town it is proposed to provide free ambulance service for all the residents. In most centres it is necessary to toddle along by yourself. You can't get such service in any other city or town we know about. When all the other services come into effect, if you live in Acton you get the bonus of free ambulance service. At least you will for three months anyway. In other words, you'll get the deluxe service from the "cradle to the grave". To heck with the "rainy day" provision in life any more. We have, however, sympathy for Councillor Goy and the Finance Committee. Perhaps our understanding will come later.

Sell Them Young

Seems to be a popular method of filling in on TV to have a little verse put to music or some cartoon or catchy jingle. We thought at first it was a new gimmick and it catches on readily with the children, who, of course, these days do most of the buying. Thinking back, we recalled it wasn't a new approach to selling at all.

We recall 50 or more years ago watching the demolition of a barn in town to make way for business expansion. Up on the wall was a framed lithograph picture of a group of songsters. Oh, yes, they were pretty girls of the day. The verse they were purported to be singing was, "A song we sing, a song of hope, the world is using Comfort Soap".

Boy, did we use it in those days, too. It did the family wash, was for the bath, and we've even seen it used in the old shaving mugs. Memory seems to tell us there was only Surprise, Sunlight and Comfort and soft soap in those days. Maybe the rhymsters are right in using the jingles to sell products to the children. They may remember them long after they reach the consumer age. But where is Comfort Soap now?

Terms of Understanding

In these days when terms of millions and billions of dollars are freely bandied about we were interested to read in the Financial Post that some one had put into form we could comprehend what a billion dollars meant. Maybe it will help you understand some of the figures that appear in the budget of governments.

If you had a billion dollars in \$10 bills and decided to lay them end to end, the line would stretch from Montreal to Vancouver more than three times.

If you had a billion dollars and set out to count the money at \$100 a minute, working eight hours a day for six days a week, it would take you more than 66 years to finish the job.

If you had a billion dollars in \$1 bills and decided to decorate a Toronto street with them, you could paper a wall 14 ft high on both sides of Toronto's Yonge St. from Queen to Bloor.

Finally, to illustrate from the wallet instead of wallpaper, a billion dollars is close to three per cent of all the money all Canadians will earn this year by all kinds of economic activity. This is a rich country, but a billion is still a lot of money.

Correct Even if Different

Having watched at many public dinners the methods used in proposing a toast to the Queen we were interested to read the correct way. The authority, and the highest on this subject, is the Comptroller of the Lord High Chamberlain's Office, St. James' Palace, London, England.

The Chairman of the meeting at which both ladies and gentlemen are present raps once with his gavel, and having obtained silence, says: Ladies and gentlemen, "The Queen" and no more. The audience then stands at attention while the National Anthem is being played or sung. Only then is the glass lifted from the table and held for a moment at eye level. Either before or after drinking one sip of the liquid, the words "The Queen" are repeated and the glass is replaced on the table. The audience will then sit down.

All such introductions as "Will you rise and drink a toast to Her Majesty, after which we will sing one verse of the National Anthem" are improper. It is incorrect to hold the glass in one's hand while singing the National Anthem. Probably the most common and worst blunder is for members of the audience to click glasses together when proposing the toast.

So now just tip this out and put it in the vest pocket of your going-out suit. If anyone questions your manner of responding to the toast to the Queen you can at least show them you are absolutely correct, even if you may be at variance with the majority.

For Those Unaware

Recent tragedies come as a reminder that not all the hazards for children are on the highways. The springs-wollen creek, the fascination for moving water, the urge to explore beyond range have always been a lure for young and old. Ever stop at the mighty Niagara and gaze on its depths and its seeming slow motion and not feel the urge to get closer to it?

When spring comes every youngster has the urge to find the submerged landmarks which were there a day or so ago. In the early winter there are always the venturesome who desire to find out for themselves whether the first thin coating of ice is safe. It is perhaps unexplainable to adults, this urge to explore, but think back on your own boyhood days. Maybe you too fell in while on an exploit, but you were fortunate that you got out by yourself or with some help.

Every spring and fall the creeks and ponds take their toll of children who don't realize the danger in the water that is a creek no more. The seasons for such dangers are short but across the country the toll is heavy. We wish an answer could be given broad enough to eliminate this sorrow and loss of life better than the constant need for vigilance and the urge in every place to keep before those who are not aware of the danger that lurks along every little creek in spring or early winter. The menace is as great as that of the highways. For the next few weeks it deserves a place in every safety lesson given children.

Brief Comment

In these days when there is so much activity about air pollution nothing is being done about those pesky skunks that wander about every spring.

It is reported that a profit of two cents is made on every four or five cent stamp. Why not slow back a little of profit into providing better service, or lower rates would perhaps be more appreciated.

Mr. Dulles has found a formula for getting his name in the papers twice as often, remarks the Sherbrooke (Que.) Record. "Every time he makes a statement, he has to issue a retraction."



Looking for Greener Pastures

Chronicles of Ginger Farm

Wrecking Week at the Farm

By Gwendoline F. Clarke

Last week was "wrecking week" the first of several I imagine. Sometimes in a manner of speaking things wreck us this time we were wrecking things. While I was in the house ruthlessly filling up boxes for a bonfire, Partner was out in the driving shed wrecking the faithful old binder Johnny came along to help him. There it was in the corner of the shed, untouched for several years, its canvases rolled and stacked on the platform along with the reel-arms and other parts.

It was a dusty, cumbersome-looking piece of machinery that no one would have said thank you for had it been offered as a gift. And yet, it was not for the introduction of modern machinery, that same old binder would have given good service for a number of years. The men on it are still good and the woodwork as sound as a bill. Machinery was built to last when we bought it over 30 years ago.

And what a history is connected with that old binder. Money was hard to come by when we started farming so machinery was bought on time. It took us three years to pay for the binder. It cut good crops and soon. Sometimes the sheaves were so heavy you would wonder how it could deal with them. Or sometimes, after a bad rain and windstorm, "lifters" had to be used to get the crop cut at all. One year, when spring crops were very heavy and a 10 acre field of oats half cut, there came a terrific rain—a regular deluge.

Before the field had a chance to dry out, there was more rain. The first storm had come suddenly. All that could be done was loosen

the canvases and leave the binder in the field. It sat there all fall. It couldn't be drawn through a sough of mud, even by horses. We lost heavily on our spring crop that year and I believe it was before the binder was entirely paid for.

Of course, all our implements at that time were horse drawn. Perch and Queen were hitched to the binder for the first round, then I would take Prince to the field and Partner would carry on with the three horses while I went along the outside of the field, throwing the first sheaves out of his way.

Sometimes if we could afford it we had a hired man for a few weeks. We paid him the going wage, a dollar a day and his keep. But even so, I had to help in the field and at the barn. Partner stayed out until dark (the standard time) and then did the chores afterward. It was usually ten o'clock before he was through. The children were not old enough to do much more than set the table, wash dishes and feed the chickens.

Of course, we occasionally had binder trouble and I would be sent to town post-haste in the horse and buggy to get a new reel-egg maybe. Partner would be stoking until I got back. I can't remember that we ever had any major breaks although we sometimes lost considerable time when the knoller refused to function or the twine would break.

Eventually we got a tractor—a used one, of course. Adjustments were made to the binder and it continued to give faithful service. By this time, Bob was able to drive the tractor while Partner rode the binder. And what a beating he and the binder took! The horses had far more intelligence than the

tractor instinctively they slowed up and prepared for the job that always followed after crossing a water furrow. But with a somewhat inexperienced driver the tractor kept right on going.

I was no longer needed in the field but my services were definitely required to keep the binder canvases in order. Sometimes by hand sometimes with the sewing machine I struggled to get patches on those beloved canvases year after year and they were always brought in for repairs on the hottest and stickiest days. But perhaps my work paid off as in the years the binder was in use, we bought only one extra canvas—and that was a used one.

During World War II, Johnny was with us and we got through a lot of work. About the time Bob came out of the army, Partner more or less went to pieces. Help was hard to get and, combines came into their own. We had our grain custom-harvested. The old binder stayed in its corner of the shed, a dusty relic of the past reminding us only of the years that have come and gone, of good fortune and misfortune. That came our way but most of it, as I look back, was good.

The hard times taught us much that we would never have learned had it been easy going all the time. And the binder, well, it is bringing us more now as scrap iron than it would as a piece of machinery.

And what of the scrap metal? Ploughshares to swords, swords to shares, binders to battlefields—where does it all end? I wonder. The binder had a long and useful life. It would appear its final destiny will be undeservedly uncertain and inglorious. And yet, how are we to know—it might be just the opposite?

Regional Conference Record Attendance

Representing North Halton District at the South Central Regional Conference held last week in Kitchener-Waterloo were A.C.M. Ron Smith and C.M. Murray Scouye of Acton.

The Regional Conference, an annual gathering of Cub Scouts, Rover, Group Committees 1 and Ladies' Auxiliaries was attended by upwards of 800 leaders, nearly double that of last year. It was considered to be a record number of leaders ever to assemble at one time in Canada.

Following an afternoon discussion on new rulings, the program was highlighted with the dinner guest speaker, Fred Findlay, Chief Executive Commissioner for Canada.

New Appointments

Executive appointments have been announced by W. R. McLellan, President and General Manager, Orinda Engines Limited.

Frank L. Dethwey has been named assistant to the president and continues as a director of Orinda Engines Limited. Paul Y. Davoud has been appointed vice-president, sales and service. Kenneth R. Church has been appointed vice-president, finance and treasurer. John H. Ready has been appointed secretary.

THIS SUNDAY'S CHURCH CALENDAR

BAPTIST CHURCH ACTON Rev. Ray H. Costerus, Pastor Parsonage, 115 Bower Ave Phone 208 SUNDAY, MARCH 17th, 1957 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.U. The Adult Fellowship Discussion Group, 10 a.m., Sunday Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Mid-week service Thursday evening, March 21, 8 p.m.—Spring Thankoffering. Speaker, Rev. Gordon Gardner will show colored slides on his work in India. A special invitation to the men.	UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA Acton, Ontario Rev. Gordon Adams, M.A., B.D., Minister Parsonage—29 Bower Avenue Phone 40 Mr. George Elliott, Organist and Choir Leader, 76 Bower Ave., Acton, phone 6 SUNDAY, MARCH 17th, 1957 9:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer 10:00 a.m.—Junior Church and Church School 11:15 a.m.—Morning Worship	PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA KNOX CHURCH, ACTON Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D. SUNDAY, MARCH 17th, 1957 9:45 a.m.—Church School 10:00 a.m.—Morning Worship 7:00 p.m.—Evening Service 8:30 p.m.—Senior High Fellowship at the Manse. Ministry's Confirmation Class each Wednesday at 7 p.m.	THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA St. Alban's Church, Acton, Ont. Rev. Evan H. Jones, B.A., L.Th., Rector SUNDAY, MARCH 17th, 1957 / LENT II 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 4:15 p.m.—Holy Baptism 7:00 p.m.—Evening Service Wednesday, March 20, 8 p.m.—Mid-week Lenten service	ACTON PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY Meeting in the Y.M.C.A. Pastor: Rev. K. J. Reid. 81 Cook St., Telephone 640. SUNDAY, MARCH 17th, 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
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THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1907

Taken from the issue of The Free Press, Thursday, March 14, 1907.

The newly who sold papers off the Toronto train last Sunday has trouble ahead for him. A Hamilton newsboy was fined \$30 and costs last week for the citizens have been called upon the Free Press to supply the entertainment in the town hall Monday night. Responsible people do not care to be associated in this way. Ladies felt they were obliged to leave the hall in the season. The Municipal Officer should receive authority, and exercise it, for stamping out all ungentlemanly conduct. Whistling and boisterous actions generally are unbecoming and highly distasteful to most of the citizens who frequent entertainments in the town hall. A few hours in the cells will cure any of the hoodlums who misbehave themselves. Try it and see. It did in years gone by.

Communion services will be held in Knox church next Sunday morning. The service preparatory to communion on Friday evening will be addressed by Rev. James Little of Hampton, a son of Rev. Mr. Little who was for many years the much loved pastor of the church in Niagara Falls.

Capt. C. S. Gamble who is taking a course at St. Mary's University, Toronto, is in the Officer's quarters and is enjoying his course very much.

Chalkville has a floating debt of \$1000 to be paid.

Mr. Thomas Perryman Jr. has disposed of his brick store and residence, the Royal Corner to Dr. J. M. Bell, for a good advance on the price he paid in 1905.

Girls are talking of organizing a union to protect their interests in the engaged more than three deep. Horn Lake. In Acton on Saturday 10th March to Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Lake a son.

The seven cent social to be given this evening in the Methodist church by the Ladies Aid will be an interesting affair. The admission fee will be seven cents but every seventh person will be admitted free. At the supper there will be four courses to choose from, price seven cents each course.

BACK IN 1937

Taken from the issue of The Free Press, Thursday, March 14, 1937.

Married William McKenna in Acton Saturday, March 13, 1937, by Rev. V. M. Morrow. Mary Ellen Josephine, daughter of Mr. and the late Mr. A. McKenna, to Joseph Witham son of Mr. and the late Mr. W. Witham of Bradford, England.

Acton is out of the O.H.A. race, having lost to Simons in the second game. Rumor has it that Jack Grech and Frank Gibbons are hanging up their sticks and dropping out of the game.

Spring town's skating will be the best since it started. Follows the hockey meet.

Miss Ruth Gibson, Acton, will be one of the artists in the O.H.A.'s amateur program on Sunday.

A two year old Chevrolet, Billy Jean Stalder, built and owned by J. F. Peattie was sold recently for a right price.

At a gathering last evening of the hockey match of the hockey association, Mr. H. F. G. Peattie was presented with a hockey pin on behalf of the club.

The third meeting of the Library Society of Acton high school was held Friday. Betty Borker, Mrs. J. Peattie, and the meeting took the form of a musical show with Tommy Watson as pianist, Mrs. Bruce and Dorothy Atchison sang a duet. Gordon McCutcheon gave a reading. The first part of the paper was read by Della Van Wyck, Gordon Hilton and Norman Wright sang a duet.

A meeting of the Mary B. Moore Girls Guild of Knox church met Monday evening at the home of Mrs. H. MacArthur. After devotional exercises by Helen Maninger and Mrs. MacArthur, Wilma Hanwen took the program. Margaret Russell and Donald McPhail gave readings. An Irish contest was won by Della Howell.

Good Friday a week from tomorrow.

Flu and influenza have been very prevalent and have confined many to their homes.

At the Gregory Theatre, Captain Kid, a picture for the whole family starring May Hobson and Guy Kibbe.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

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