

# The Acton Free Press

The only paper ever published in Acton



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THURSDAY, APRIL 4th, 1957

## Pussy Willow Time

The pussy willow's gray for nose is tinting the air these days to test the nearness of spring. Nearly 200 species of willows have been described - it is the Galois willow that is the pussy, and in most areas it is more likely to be a shrub than a tree.

If one wishes a new and interesting nature study, examine the buds of the trees beneath a hand lens. The bud of the black willow, our most common, large size tree willow, is a rich glowing red, the bud of the swamp willow has an orange hue. The bud of the pussy is a deep blue-black, sometimes decorated near the tip with a reddish-maroon tinge.

The pussy willow is not a majestic tree like an oak or a maple, it does not have the supple grace of a white birch nor the calm dignity of a tall evergreen. The pussies choose the low spots, they are humble, everyday shrubs. But when they toss their blossoms to the blue skies of March and hang out their catkins, one knows that winter is over.

Ottawa Journal

## Official Definition of a Cow

Perhaps he just got tired of all the official gobbledegook the official language of politicians and civil servants calculated to throw Mr. Average Citizen. We refer to an official U.S. Department of Agriculture bulletin that defined a cow. School students might find it useful in preparing an essay.

Here it is:

"The cow is a mobile, animated machine housed in processed leather. One end is equipped with a mower, grinder and the other standard equipment, including bumpers, headlights, wingflaps and a foghorn. At the other end is a milk dispenser and insect repeller.

"Centrally located is a conversion plant consisting of a combination storage and fermentation vat, three converters in series and an intricate arrangement of conveyor tubes.

"This machine is also equipped with a central heating plant, pumping system and air conditioning.

"Although mysterious and secret, this plant is unpatented. It is available in various sizes, colors and output capacity ranges from one to 21 tons of milk a year."

There is clear and simple language is an official definition of a cow. It is a relief to get away from the aforesaid and wherewiths as well as the parties of the second and third parts, usually found in official government documents.

Sudbury Star.

## The Regulation of Store Hours

Just seems as if the question of retail hours will never be settled satisfactorily. Most retailers in this district have just got used to the Friday night opening when the proposal comes along for more evening hours of shopping and closing up on Monday. In most cases abandoning the mid-week half day would go in the new plan. The trend in retail hours seems to be, just as in industry, for longer week-ends.

Trouble seems to be, however, that those in industry want the retailers open when they are free to visit the stores and do their shopping. In other words, what's the use of having more leisure time on your hands if there is no place to go and no service available when you get there. Matter of fact uniformity of hours is never likely to be accomplished completely. Always some one must work while others play.

Perhaps we may always look forward to a contentious regulation, and may never again revert to the days when each individual was free to arrange the working hours best suited to his own conditions, without the aid of laws. Each municipality under the plan of special local option laws is getting a bit out of hand and even provincial governments are not anxious to get into the muddle.

## The Ups and Downs

Easier prices for many key raw materials mean lowering the pressure inflation, reports The Financial Post. But this doesn't mean there is going to be any sudden drop in the prices of finished products. There are offsetting factors.

Steel is one example. Scrap has dropped 11% since the first of the year. But just as prices went up 5.5%, coke has also gone up and more important steel workers will get an automatic 13% without package increase starting April 1.

For several months, however, higher steel prices have been considered inevitable. Now, manufacturers will have to keep an eye on the softening demand.

Rubber is another example. Crude has slumped 11% since early January, but other chemicals have gone up and a 10% an hour wage package hike went into effect in February.

Fuel costs are still on the rise for most industry, and coal has gone up 2% a ton for factories and power plants.

## Changing Means of Travel

A trend of the times is noted in an announcement last week in the Regis News Record that the C.P.R. will abandon all passenger service on the route from Changelville to Elora. The prediction is also made that the same thing will happen on two other branch lines out of Changelville to Leeward and Walkerton. It just doesn't pay to run trains with empty seats and the railways cannot afford sentiment and tradition to encroach on good business practice. The same thing can be predicted for other centres especially where two railways are now giving service.

Actually the trend is not new. The electric line that used to serve from Toronto to Guelph went out of business when buses took over 20 or more years ago. Many other electric railways throughout Ontario have since been abandoned.

It is not a fact that people do not travel as much. A look at highway construction in Ontario and the amount of output of motor car manufacturers tells the story of the changing conditions of travel. We often wonder how many years it will be until our highway expenditures may meet the needs and the air will be the logical means of passenger travel.

All will agree, however, that the railways have filled an important part in the development of Canada. Those branch lines all played a great part, too. Most of us will regret to see the passing of things that have been part of one's life for so long. None can argue, however, with the advisability and need to meet changed conditions. The past 50 years have seen many changes and the next half of the century is likely to see many more. On long trips the railways have many advantages for travelling yet it is apparent that the fields most profitable for railway services are on the long hauls.

The young folks who hop in the car and go places in the evening will never know the thrill that some of us used to have in an evening stroll to the station to see the night train go through or of riding on crowded trains going to Toronto on the week-end or to the exhibition when you couldn't even get into the coach and were fortunate to get standing room inside.

## Brief Comment

Walkerton has announced its double-taxation for the year. 55 mills for business and 52 for residential and farm property.

These early spring days do bring ideas of spring housecleaning time into the program making for a longer time of household chatter.

Every spring a fresh crop of unscrupulous salesmen is loosed on a gullible public. Beware of the door-to-door peddler calls at your home offering a deal. Better to investigate before you invest.

Note some of our exchange papers from Manitoba can reach our desk sooner than others published within 50 miles can be delivered-even if both are mailed the same day.

More and more the week-ends are getting crowded with Sunday reading. But with spring and clear roads so are the highways more congested. Think we'll still stick to Thursdays to reach folks in their homes.

Toronto is out for a new subway, a speedway. Why not slacken efforts for much concentration of industry and let it go to smaller places and their needs for transportation would be lessened.

Some limitations are necessary but we are going too far in restrictive laws and regulations thinks the Wingham (Ont.) Advance Times. "Just let us build up enough of these pinching little laws and soon we will have the whole fabric of a web which will ensnare us more completely than the forces of a foreign dictator. How pathetic it will be to realize, too late, that we asked for all this."



Spring Floods

Photo by Richard Harris

## Chronicles of Ginger Farm

# Pioneers at Stoney Creek

By (twendaloo P. Clarke)

All across Ontario branches of the Women's Institute are celebrating the Jubilee of their organization. Not all branches are observing the occasion in the same way but a great many are finding it a good time to make it a social occasion for members and their families.

Possibly the most notable gathering was at Stoney Creek. And rightly so for it was here that the Mother Institute came into being. On February 19, 1897 Mr. Erland Lee gathered together a group of enterprising women at Stoney Creek, in Stoney Creek to form an address to Mrs. Adelaide Hostless. Mr. Lee had heard Mrs. Hostless speak at the Farmers' Institute in Guelph and was much impressed by her ability and enthusiasm as she endeavored to create greater interest and responsibility in the women of that day in matters of health, education, home and child care, and sanitation, so vital to the welfare of all but particularly in the children.

It is quite possible other women in rural Ontario at that time were also aware of the need for an improvement program, but then, as always, it required someone with courage, initiative and selfless devotion to lead the way. Mrs. Hostless, first through her own need, became that woman, and through her the country women in and around Stoney Creek became pioneers in an organization to work for the betterment of "Home and Country." It was thus the Women's Institute of Ontario was born.

At the Commemorative Dinner held in Stoney Creek last month, 150 members, dignitaries and guests assembled to honor the founders of the W.I. including five of the

seven surviving charter members. Congratulations came in from all around the world. It must have been a proud and inspiring occasion for the women of Stoney Creek.

Only one branch in Ontario can claim the distinction of being the first, but all branches, wherever and wherever situated can be justly proud of belonging to an organization that has developed into such a tremendous power for good among the rural population of Ontario. And not only in Ontario. Just as a pebble thrown into a pond makes circles in the water, ever increasing in size so the Women's Institute by its affiliation with the Associated Countrywomen of the World has increased in power, strength and numbers, widening the scope of its activities to many quarters of the world.

Last Saturday our local branch the North Block W.I. had a job-the turkey supper and social evening for its members and their guests. According to an unofficial count, there were about 85 present. It is 24 years ago this month since our branch had its first meeting and I am happy to say several of the charter members were present.

Our branch has experienced the same ups and downs common to us all. Some previous members moved to other districts, some have regretfully passed away, but many, many others have come into the fold and become active members of our branch. Looking back over the years, it seems almost incredible that one group of women could have come to do so much work and yet with it all had a wonderful time together. During the war years, we were actively engaged in making quilts, packing hales, knitting and sewing. Now our main project is to assist

in the establishment of a local hospital badly needed in this district of which the Institute is a part. In all it was a heart warming and most enjoyable evening. Partner and I came away before they started to get over-tired. At supper time, kindly to late nights away from home, especially as we expected some of the family the next day.

Came Sunday a lovely spring-like day, a lovely day for a walk across the fields and along the creek. At first all went well and then I had a fall from the edge. David said I was to go for a walk and he had to go for the creek. Fortunately, David had returned to grab him, but he could not get me up. The water was too cold. And then David took to the yelling, "I want to go swimming." It wasn't a happy occasion for a woman as David is a big boy for his age and his three and a half year old strength was greater than his grandfather's. But they arrived home safely, both of them a little worse for the tussle of wits.

Then his Dad took Dave for a walk. Poor little chap, he is like something left out of a cage when he gets to the country and ends up by getting over-tired. At supper time, he leaned his head against his Dad and actually went to sleep. Art carried him to the couch and he slept until it was time to go home. After that we were glad to relax and to watch "Candorilla" on television. It was good. Then came the Challenge and like Dave I fell asleep.

## THIS SUNDAY'S CHURCH CALENDAR

**BAPTIST CHURCH**  
ACTON  
Rev. Ray H. Corneus, Pastor  
Parsonage, 115 Bower Ave.  
Phone 208

SUNDAY, APRIL 7th, 1957  
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School  
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship  
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service  
Tuesday, 7 p.m.—B.Y.P.U.  
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Mid-week service.

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 7th, 1957  
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.—Evening.

**ACTON PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY**  
Meeting in the Y.M.C.A.—  
Pastor: Rev. R. J. Reid,  
81 Cook St., Telephone 688.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7th, 1957  
10:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.  
11:00 a.m.—Evangelistic Service.  
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Collage Prayer meeting and Bible study.

**UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**  
Acton, Ontario  
Rev. Gordon Adams M.A., B.D., Minister  
Parsonage—29 Bower Avenue  
Phone 80

SUNDAY, APRIL 7th, 1957  
9:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer.  
10:00 a.m.—Junior Church and Church School.  
7:30 p.m.—Evening Service.

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 7th, 1957  
9:45 a.m.—Church School.  
11:00 a.m.—Celebration of Holy Communion.  
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship.  
8:15 p.m.—Senior - High Fellowship.

Friday, April 5, 8 p.m.—Preparatory Service.

## Acton Resident 100 on Sunday

Last Sunday, William Mainprize, Acton's oldest resident, celebrated his 100th birthday at his home, 104 Mill Street.

Rising bright and early, Mr. Mainprize began his busy day with a hearty breakfast. Guests, visitors and family began arriving soon after and found Mr. Mainprize hale and hearty with a smile for each. Among the guests were several representatives from the government, members of the Acton council and many out-of-town friends. Cards, bouquets, phone calls and telegrams were received by Mr. Mainprize.

Out-of-town guests included Mr. and Mrs. Ron Cummings and Linda of Port Credit; Mr. and Mrs. Carmen Mainprize, Kingsway, Toronto; Mr. George Cooper, St. Mary's; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hutton, Lakeside; Mr. Wallace Hutton and Lynn, Lakeside; and Mr. Albert Mainprize, St. Mary's.

## Spring Signs

Mrs. C. F. Snow of Ballinacraig reports hearing a frog on Thursday, March 28. The frog made a brief appearance at two o'clock in the afternoon, according to Mrs. Snow. According to a radio forecast, this was about two hours ahead of the official announcement of Spring!

# THE GOOD OLD DAYS

## BACK IN 1937

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, April 8, 1937.

On Saturday, 11 year old Nanny Brunelle narrowly escaped death when he was accidentally shot with a 22 rifle by a companion.

A surprise party was held on Friday evening at the home of Mrs. F. J. McCutcheon on the occasion of their 20th wedding anniversary.

Mrs. Patricia Harrop spent the Easter week with Dr. and Mrs. N. Harrop in Toronto.

Mrs. F. L. Wright, who has been in England for the past nine months, returned home last evening.

The second line from Acton to Milton is in rather poor condition. Maple syrup by the local makers is now on the market. The prevailing price is \$2 per gallon.

If it weren't for spring housecleaning this season of year would be too bad.

The Acton Branch of the Canadian Legion provided a splendid evening at their hall last night when the members of the two local chapters of the Daughters of the Empire were the guests.

Mrs. James Dobbin of Etobicoke visited with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Dobbin on Saturday.

At this time of the year, evidence of the need of the second line being another road surface as to be found in hundreds of holes in its entire length. Work on it cannot start because.

The furniture sale of W. F. E. shall on Saturday was one of the best held here in six years and some of the articles brought prices almost equal to new goods.

Mrs. Allan Lashman and John Barber visited friends on Manitowish Island over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Ramshaw announce the engagement of their only daughter, Vida Lucie to Frederick K. Hilton, only son of Mrs. Hilton and the late Mr. K. Hilton of Toronto.

The regular monthly business meeting of the Acton Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Wm. Hill on Thursday afternoon.

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Phone 26 Res 5557  
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J. BERT WOOD  
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Dental Surgeon  
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Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Closed Wednesday afternoon.  
Telephone 148

B. D. YOUNG, B.V. Sc.  
C. L. YOUNG, D.V.M.  
Veterinary Surgeons  
Office—Brookville, Ontario  
Phone—Milton TR 8-9177

## BACK IN 1907

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, April 6, 1907.

The supply of maple syrup is very meagre thus far this spring. The assessor is making calls upon his friends these days and per suading most of them that their property is worth more than they thought it was.

Mr. H. H. Brown believes he can head the list with spring loads. He has a fairer than last year's three weeks old, which weighed on the day 40 pounds.

Mr. J. H. Lake was home from North Bay last week.

Mr. James Warren of Walkerton spent last Friday with the Acton friends.

Mrs. H. H. Woodhouse and C. B. Woodhouse were home from Central College.

Mrs. Robert Scott and Ed. Fisher represented Acton at the Ladies' Association meeting in Toronto on Friday.

Mr. F. J. Moore was home from Victoria University.

Operations were commenced on Monday on the new industrial block.

The price of money advanced in last week's Free Press, was claimed by the owner an hour or so after the paper was issued. It belonged to a lady who had sent her little daughter to do some shopping and she lost the price.

We are told the woman's work is never done. At any rate, housekeepers will soon be leading the strenuous life for house cleaning is near.

Mrs. Clara Moore having completed her course returned from Macdonald Institute last week.

Miss Daisy McKim is home from Burlington. She spent a few days in Toronto at a reunion of Normal graduates.

## PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

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DR. A. J. BUCHANAN Dental Surgeon Office—5A Mill Street Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Wednesday afternoon. Telephone 148	<b>TRAVELLERS' GUIDE</b> <b>GRAY COACH LINES</b> COACHES LEAVE ACTON Standard Time Eastbound 8:33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hols.); 8:58 a.m.; 11:33 a.m.; 2:08 p.m.; 5:08 p.m.; 8:33 p.m.; 8:58 p.m. (Sun. and Hols.) Westbound 10:27 a.m.; 12:57 p.m.; 2:57 p.m.; 5:27 p.m.; 7:27 p.m.; 8:12 p.m.; 11:32 p.m.; 1:12 a.m. (Fri., Sat., Sun. and Hols.)
B. D. YOUNG, B.V. Sc. C. L. YOUNG, D.V.M. Veterinary Surgeons Office—Brookville, Ontario Phone—Milton TR 8-9177	<b>CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS</b> Standard Time Eastbound Daily 6:40 a.m.; Daily except Sunday 10:00 a.m.; 1:13 p.m.; Sunday only 8:01 p.m.; Daily except Sunday Flyer at Georgetown 9:02 a.m.; 1:37 p.m.; Daily Flyer at George- town 10:41 p.m. Westbound Daily 11:46 p.m.; Daily except Sunday 8:30 a.m.; 8:55 p.m. (flag stop); 7:40 p.m.; Saturday only 2:15 p.m.; Sunday only 8:41 a.m. (flag stop); Sunday only Flyer at Georgetown 7:05 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. 8:10 p.m.