

## The Acton Free Press

The only paper ever published in Acton



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Business and Editorial Office - Ph. 600 Acton

THURSDAY, MAY 23rd, 1957

### Public Knowledge Denied

There has been a growing tendency to exclude from public notice that which concerns the public. We're concerned about it because it means the press is prevented in some measure from doing its job of keeping people informed.

Three times within this year public groups have felt it wise to bar public knowledge.

This year's budget was never debated in what could be called a public meeting. It was dealt with at a special meeting which the press was invited not to attend since it was to be a series of committee meetings. This we understood was the suggestion of the finance committee. A provision of the motion at their special meeting was that the budget not be revealed until the regular meeting a week later.

Then the town dealt with gasoline tenders and felt it wise to clear the council chambers for this discussion.

Finally the most recent incident finds the Public Utilities Commission holding a special meeting to deal with applications for a meter reader, and requesting that the press be excluded.

It is not our contention that absolutely everything should be aired publicly. There are times when industrial negotiations can be seriously jeopardized by premature disclosure. The Free Press has always co-operated in this regard.

Our argument is against the increasing use of secrecy in dealing with public matters and spending public money and on the basis the need for secrecy is determined.

When a public group invokes secrecy there must indeed be good reason. We seriously doubt the need for secrecy in all these instances.

We have yet to find public officials not acting in what they felt to be the best interests of the town and their task is undoubtedly a thankless one but their responsibility is to those who named them to office. The limiting of information to electors is indeed a weighty responsibility to assume. We have no quarrel with public officials. We often sympathize with them but we do believe the public has a right to full knowledge of how their money is being spent.

### Everything in Due Time

Rather interesting to note that last week our neighboring town of Georgetown reversed its decision on the installation of parking meters and by a vote of 7-2 endorsed parking meters for three streets and gave authorization to sign a contract at the same meeting. Seventy-five per cent. of the downtown merchants had asked for the metering. It is reported.

What Georgetown council or business men do is none of our concern. They may have a situation there that can be helped by the move and is not applicable here. We simply state the facts of the case to show what can happen in a short time and how quickly a decision may be reversed. There may be meter salesmen working the district and they apparently have contracts already to be signed by council.

In case we are not clear, we want to state that we consider that parking meters are not needed at the present time in Acton. However, with the rapid production of motor vehicles, the day may not be far off before some means will have to be introduced to limit parking on the streets here. If parking lots are the answer, who should buy them and maintain them—the town as a whole or the individuals who use them?

The question is not one for immediate solution here, but one which must be dealt with sometime in the not too distant future. A smart salesman might put over the deal in a hurry, too, without due consideration of all the people. Remember when we used to point with pride to the increasing number of cars on Main Street on a Saturday night? It wasn't long ago either.

### Which Shall be Greatest?

One often wonders as editorial opinions in these columns are written each week just how widely read or what effect the messages have. Disagreement usually brings a protest but we find that quite often too, we get words of appreciation. We like both kinds in moderation. We have over the many years always felt public discussion on public matters is good for all. These editorials are our opinions only do we try to be fair in the expressions of them.

This week we received a letter from the Retail Merchants' Association of Canada (Ontario) Inc. with headquarters in Toronto and we gladly reproduce it and the article referred to in another column.

Dear Sir:  
We read with much interest your editorial of April 18 headed "Help Needed for the Right".  
Your editorial names our Association as being the group who are campaigning currently to establish the sale of beer in retail stores in Ontario. This is incorrect. Our position is stated in the attached press release which is enclosed for your perusal. You will note that we agree with the decision of Premier Frost and his Cabinet.

We would appreciate your giving some publicity in our statement and to the fact that the Retail Merchants' Association of Canada (Ontario) Inc. is not the group which has been selling retailers memberships on the promise that they would have beer in stores at specified times of two weeks, six weeks, etc. A group known as The Greater Retail Grocers Association are the people advancing this suggestion.

Yours very truly,  
(Signed) F. A. B. HANDS,  
General Manager  
We are indeed glad to learn of the stand of the Retail Merchants' Association on the sale of beer in retail outlets. In these days of a multitude of associations one is liable to be confused. Our editorial of April 17th is now only applicable to the Greater Retail Grocers' Association. We are encouraged that the provincial government gets some help for the right from many sides and valuable organizations.

### Development Stupendous

According to the Bureau of Statistics, the Canadian economy is growing faster than its American counterpart. In the 1946-53 period, Canadian production increased by 104 per cent, while the American increase was only 74 per cent. In the 1953-56 period the comparative figures were 22 per cent and 14 per cent.

It will take Canada a long time to become the industrially strong country that the United States is at the present time. But the above figures show that the Canadian economy is growing at a very rapid and healthy rate. Given a broad and satisfactory immigration policy and more active Canadian investment in expanding industry, there would seem to be no good reason why in the next quarter of a century or so, this country could not be among the leading industrial nations of the world. Even now, the known natural resources are bigger than those of the United States, on a per capita basis, and there are still vast areas awaiting technical appraisal and development.

These comments from the Charlottetown Guardian were borne out by the assessment figures given for Halton County last week. This part of Canada is contributing a big share in the overall picture of Canada's expansion—perhaps larger than few of us living here realize. With it comes its problems, too, as every municipality in this county is fully aware.

### Spring Time Untidiness

The grass is growing fast along Canadian highways now but not enough yet to hide the litter of bottles, cans, boxes and other junk that has been accumulating steadily since last fall. Go almost anywhere to the park, or the airport or to some picnic spot and one will see trash scattered about, and the more prosperous we become the greater the scattering.

We can be mighty particular about our own home or surrounding. Even the grass clippings may be carefully gathered and put in the garbage container. But how do we behave when we get in a car and can be miles in moments from where we litter the road? What is our conduct when we picnic by the roadside or on some farmer's lot? Would you appreciate similar treatment by strangers around your home?

To those who dwell in the townships where there may not be any garbage collection or disposal a word in the interest of tidiness may also not be amiss. Do you only care if your rubbish is out of your sight? Do you only care if your rubbish is out of your sight? Do you just cart it away to a neighbor's land or dump it on a roadside in some little travelled section? Spring unearths a lot of untidiness—is it necessary?

### Brief Comment

Whatever your opinion, have one at least and use your vote on June 10th.

It's not the atomic or any other kind of bomb that is determining the cool weather of May. We had snow and frost in May and June before they were ever heard about.



"Buds and Blossoms"

### From Ginger Farm to Halfway House

## "Welcome Wagon" Greatly Noted

By Gwendoline F. Clarke  
We begin to feel as if we belong here now. We have our name on the mail box and a name plate on our front lawn. Not only that but a representative of the "Welcome Wagon" came calling yesterday.  
Ever heard of the Welcome Wagon? I had only a dim idea of what it meant but now that I know more about it, I think it is a wonderful set-up. Not because of what is given away but because it gives newcomers a feeling of recognition. Farm folk may not know what I am talking about so I'd better be more explicit.  
It is a practice that is steadily gaining ground in Ontario. Apparently trades people in the nearest business section agree to contribute towards the "Welcome Wagon," which means that a representative calls upon all newcomers to the district, bringing with them courtesy cards from those who wish to contribute and stating to what extent.

The cards have on them the name of the sponsor and ask the newcomer to present this card so we may have the pleasure of making your acquaintance and you will receive a gift with our compliments. In this district the local newspaper promises a three months' subscription; a garage a dollar off any purchase or service; another garage offers a free car wash or lubrication; one drugstore sent along a box of band aids; a florist shop a gay little potted plant; another garage a map of the township (most useful).

Other merchants were satisfied to send a card asking you to call and receive a gift. At first sight, that did not appeal to us too well. As I said to our lady-caller, no one feels like walking into a store, presenting a card and asking for the

promised gift. She agreed but explained that tradespeople are especially anxious that newcomers at least present their cards as that is the only way the sponsors have of knowing whether their offer of service is reaching the people.  
It is, of course a form of advertising and like any other advertising, it costs money so naturally the tradespeople want to know whether it is worthwhile whether it really helps them to make contact with new residents.

The Welcome Wagon also sends along informative literature—a circular letter of welcome from the Reeve, folders from the Motor Vehicles Branch of the Department of Highways—and from Automobile Insurance companies; also from the Canadian Cancer Society, stating what local assistance is available, a card from the Funeral Home and Ambulance service and one from the nearest circulating library.

The official hostess who called upon us was a friendly, helpful, easy-to-know sort of person. I am afraid if she stayed everywhere as long as she stayed here, she wouldn't get to many calls during the day. But we seemed to have so much in common. And then, of course, Partner came along with a number of questions.

Altogether, our visitor was very helpful and left us with the impression that the Welcome Wagon is an excellent innovation, that tradespeople should not hesitate to sponsor. And if it seems helpful to us, what would it mean to newcomers from another country?

In our case, we know this locality pretty well—that is why we settled here. We like the feeling of still being in the country and yet within easy distance of transportation to and from Toronto. But of course, this is our first experience with the business section and as we more or

less intend to "shop at home" we are very glad to know when and where goods and services are available. We still like our little village store and have no intention of making weekly trips to a recently opened shopping plaza, which I believe is the nearest big shopping centre to this district.  
We are still finding plenty to do around here. Someone asked us if we were a retired couple. Well, that was our intention but sometimes I wonder!

One day last week Partner went up to the farm with Johnny and brought back some hardwood planks that he had been saving for future use. I don't know what he intends doing with them but certainly good, dry hardwood is worth keeping on hand.

Another day I went down to Oakville and visited with Joy and our grandson. Ross was on his best behavior. Joy had some shopping to do so she wrapped Ross up in his blanket and laid him in the bottom of the shopping cart.

Another shopper looked at him and exclaimed, "Well, now I've seen everything. A shopping cart as a baby buggy." Ross thought it was just all right. Through the wire walls he could see in every direction. Another shopper stopped and asked if I had bought the baby. "Yes," I answered, "he was a week-end special!"

### Stress Safety Rules To Avoid Drownings

Each year, summer vacations spell tragedy to hundreds of families as accidental drowning takes the lives of both children and adults. Next to the highway, the lake, river or swimming pool is the most lethal vacation hazard.  
Swimming is fun and should be enjoyed. Safety is of utmost importance, however, and the All Canada Insurance Federation recommends these rules for saving lives:

1. Learn how to swim and teach the children to swim.
2. Do not swim alone.
3. Unless accompanied by a boat, do not swim far from shore. Swim parallel to the shore if you wish to try for distance.
4. Non-swimmers should not float into deep water on inner tubes or other inflated articles if the float begins to leak, the swimmer is in difficulty.
5. Do not dive into unfamiliar waters and do not swim beneath diving boards.
6. If a swimmer is in difficulty, try to rescue him with a boat, a rope or an extended oar. Do not swim to him unless it is absolutely necessary. Often the rescuer also becomes a victim.
7. At public beaches, swim near the lifeguard stations.
8. Wait for at least an hour after meals before swimming.
9. Beware of undertows in rough water.
10. Do not swim during lightning storms.
11. Learn how to administer artificial respiration.

**TAKING SHIBES**  
BRANTFORD, Ont. (CP)—Police are looking for the thief who opened a purse containing \$120 in Acton. The thief was seen at the home of Mrs. J. Quinn's apartment. He took \$80, left \$40.

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS

### BACK IN 1907

From Thursday, May 23, 1907.

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, May 7, 1937.

The annual meeting of the Guelph district, held in the Methodist church last Thursday and Friday, was full of interest. Mr. H. P. Moore, Acton, gave an address on the lay agencies of the church. Rev. G. W. Barker and Mr. J. S. Coleman also took part.  
A letter arrived in Acton on Saturday from Cheyenne, Wyoming, for William Perryman, enclosing a post office order for \$10. This was sent by a stone cutter who worked at Elvess Creek 80 years ago and boarded with Mr. Perryman. He left suddenly for the west and forgot to pay the last \$10 due for his board until last week. The letter was forwarded to Mr. Perryman in Toronto.

Acton bowling green is now in splendid shape. The season will open tomorrow morning and it is expected there will be a full turnout of members.  
The following teachers went from Acton yesterday morning to attend the convocation of the Halton Teachers' Institute at Milton. Mr. W. H. Stewart, president, Misses Kate Kennedy, Jessie C. McKinnon, Mattie E. Smith, Annie King, Miss Nicol, Maggie Bennett, Florence Holmes and Vida Folter.

The Baptist Sunday School and the Young People's Society of Acton and Georgetown have arranged to picnic at Rockwood tomorrow.

Church Street roadway has now been scraped and cleaned. A good coating of broken stone is now being spread. A thorough rolling is also necessary if the roadway is to be put in good condition.  
Host all your flags tomorrow.

On the 24th of May, the Citizens' Band will serenade several of the leading citizens of the town. The band, we hope, will not only play any generous-hearted citizens are inclined to manifest their appreciation in tangible form.

A meeting of the Acton Cricket club was held at the Beardmore residence on Tuesday evening for reorganization. The officers of the year were elected as follows: honorary president, A. O. Beardmore; president, J. C. Dunn, vice-president, J. Clark, captain, A. O. Beardmore, secretary, treasurer, J. Lackey, committee, J. Wood, chairman, F. Turner, J. McAuliffe.

The canopy on the band stand at the park would present a more becoming appearance if it were plumbed up. It resembles the leaning tower of Pisa now.

Mr. Gibbons has changed the name of the Alton Hotel to the Station Hotel.

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
RUMLEY FUNERAL HOME  
Phone 699 night or day  
Bruce E. Shoemaker, Mgr.

**OLIVE M. LAMPARD**  
ATCM, RMT  
Teacher of Piano  
ACTON, ONTARIO  
St. Alban's Parish Hall  
14 PARK AVE. GUELPH  
Phone TA 2-3514

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**WALTER H. POPE**  
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Optometrist  
48 Mill St. E. Phone 118  
Office Hours: 1:30 - 6:00 p.m.  
Evenings by appointment.

**TRAVELLERS' GUIDE**  
GRAY COACH LINES  
COACHES LEAVE ACTON  
Daylight Saving Time  
Eastbound  
6:33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol.); 8:58 a.m.; 11:33 a.m.; 2:08 p.m.; 5:08 p.m.; 8:33 p.m.; 8:59 p.m.; 10:08 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.)  
Westbound  
10:37 a.m.; 12:57 p.m.; 2:57 p.m.; 5:27 p.m.; 7:27 p.m.; 9:12 p.m.; 11:22 p.m.; 1:12 a.m. (Fri., Sat., Sun. and Hol.)

**CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS**  
Standard Time  
Eastbound  
Daily 5:40 a.m.; Daily except Sunday 10:00 a.m.; 7:13 p.m.; Sundays only 8:01 p.m.; Daily except Sunday. Flyer at Georgetown 9:02 a.m.; 6:57 p.m.; Daily Flyer at Georgetown 10:11 p.m.  
Westbound  
Daily 11:44 p.m.; Daily except Sunday 8:30 a.m.; 6:55 p.m. (Flag Stop); 7:40 p.m.; Saturday only 1:25 p.m.; Sunday only 9:03 a.m. (Flag Stop); Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 7:23 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. 5:31 p.m.

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C. F. LEATHERLAND, Q.C.  
Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public  
Office Hours: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.; 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Saturdays by appointment only.  
Office 22 - Phone - Res. 151  
ACTON

### BACK IN 1937

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, May 7, 1937.

The Acton ball team displayed lots of fight and heavy hitting in Saturday's opener when they pounded the mighty "King" Carol Casey, Brampton's ace pitcher, for 13 solid innings, to come from behind and score three runs in the ninth, with one man out, to grab a 6-5 decision.

Manager Farrell sent Hec Lambert, last year's juvenile pitcher, to the mound, and he held Brampton to four runs in the six innings he pitched.

"Dude's" heavy hitting was a feature of the game. He got four out of five, but got on base five times.

The annual Empire Day concert, arranged each year with the school teachers and the pupils, and the Duke of Devonshire chapter of the I.O.D.E. co-operating, was held last Friday evening in the town hall and proved an enjoyable event. It is each year a splendid opportunity for parents and friends of the school to meet and keep acquainted with the school activities.

The program provided a good variety. The boys' choir rendered "Diana," their Festival selection. Betty Gibson sang the solo that won her the bronze medal. Gordon Gibbons and John McHugh gave a duet. Ethel Franklin, Rena Brada, Patti Bayliss and Marjorie Nelson sang a number together.

A feature of the evening was the presentation of the awards presented by the chapters of the I.O.D.E. each year.

Acton Boy Scout Troop placed second at the jamboree held at Oakville.  
A delightful euchre was held last evening in the Parish Hall by groups of the Scout Mothers' Auxiliary. Prizes were won by Mrs. George Lantry, Mrs. Holloway and William Evans. Following cards, refreshments were served by the committee in charge.

Acton will have a softball league this summer. A group of six teams has been formed.  
A pretty May wedding was solemnized on Saturday, when Miss Violet Marion Currie, elder daughter of Mr. Arch and the late Mrs. Currie became the bride of Mr. Frederick Clarence Dawkins, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Dawkins, Acton. The ceremony was conducted by Rev. H. L. Bennie at the home of the bride's father on Brock Ave.

## PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

MISCELLANEOUS	MEDICAL
RUMLEY FUNERAL HOME Phone 699 night or day Bruce E. Shoemaker, Mgr.	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
OLIVE M. LAMPARD ATCM, RMT Teacher of Piano ACTON, ONTARIO St. Alban's Parish Hall 14 PARK AVE. GUELPH Phone TA 2-3514	DR. D. A. GARRETT Physician and Surgeon Corner of Willow and River St. Entrance River Street Acton, Ontario Phone 233
AUDITING - ACCOUNTING W. H. BIGGS, FCI (Eng.) Accredited Public Accountant Georgetown, Ont. Tilgange 7-3351 Successor to A. J. Bishop, C.P.A.	DR. ROBERT D. BUCKNER Physician and Surgeon 30 Wellington St., Acton, Ont. Phone 679 Office Hours 8-8 p.m.
LEVER & HOSKIN Chartered Accountants 51 Main St. N. 212 King St. W. Brampton, Ontario Phone 2478 EM 4-9131	REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE F. L. WRIGHT 20 Wilbur St. Acton, Ontario Phone 95 Appraiser, Real Estate and Insurance
WALTER H. POPE Certified Public Accountant Chartered Secretary 39 Main St., Georgetown, Ont. Tel. 7-4221	WM. R. BRACKEN INSURANCE AGENCY 8 Mill Street Phone 28 Res. 535r GENERAL INSURANCE
OPTICAL E. L. BUCHNER, R.O. Optometrist 48 Mill St. E. Phone 118 Office Hours: 1:30 - 6:00 p.m. Evenings by appointment.	J. BERT WOOD INSURANCE AGENCY Life and General Insurance Phone 585 124 Mill St. After hours TA 4-3050, Guelph
TRAVELLERS' GUIDE GRAY COACH LINES COACHES LEAVE ACTON Daylight Saving Time Eastbound 6:33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol.); 8:58 a.m.; 11:33 a.m.; 2:08 p.m.; 5:08 p.m.; 8:33 p.m.; 8:59 p.m.; 10:08 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.) Westbound 10:37 a.m.; 12:57 p.m.; 2:57 p.m.; 5:27 p.m.; 7:27 p.m.; 9:12 p.m.; 11:22 p.m.; 1:12 a.m. (Fri., Sat., Sun. and Hol.)	DENTAL DR. H. LEIB Dental Surgeon Office—Corner Mill and Frederick Streets Office Hours—9 a.m. to 8 p.m. TELEPHONE 19 - ACTON
CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS Standard Time Eastbound Daily 5:40 a.m.; Daily except Sunday 10:00 a.m.; 7:13 p.m.; Sundays only 8:01 p.m.; Daily except Sunday. Flyer at Georgetown 9:02 a.m.; 6:57 p.m.; Daily Flyer at Georgetown 10:11 p.m. Westbound Daily 11:44 p.m.; Daily except Sunday 8:30 a.m.; 6:55 p.m. (Flag Stop); 7:40 p.m.; Saturday only 1:25 p.m.; Sunday only 9:03 a.m. (Flag Stop); Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 7:23 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. 5:31 p.m.	DR. A. J. BUCHANAN Dental Surgeon Office—3A Mill Street Office Hours—9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Closed Wednesday afternoon. Telephone 148
TAKING SHIBES BRANTFORD, Ont. (CP)—Police are looking for the thief who opened a purse containing \$120 in Acton. The thief was seen at the home of Mrs. J. Quinn's apartment. He took \$80, left \$40.	C. F. LEATHERLAND, Q.C. Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public Office Hours: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.; 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Saturdays by appointment only. Office 22 - Phone - Res. 151 ACTON

## THIS SUNDAY'S CHURCH CALENDAR

<b>BAPTIST CHURCH</b> ACTON Rev. Ray H. Costerus, Pastor Parsonage, 115 Bower-Ave Phone 206W SUNDAY, MAY 26th, 1957 10:00 a.m.—Sunday School 11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship 7:00 p.m.—Evening Service Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Mid-week service.	<b>UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA</b> Acton, Ontario Rev. Gordon Adams, M.A., B.D., Minister Parsonage—20 Bower Avenue Phone 90 Mr. George Elliott, Organist and Choir Leader 76 Bower Ave., Acton, phone 6 SUNDAY, MAY 26th, 1957 9:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer 10:00 a.m.—Junior Church and Church School 11:15 a.m.—Morning Worship.
<b>PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH</b> IN CANADA KNOX CHURCH, ACTON Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D. SUNDAY, MAY 26th, 1957 9:45 a.m.—Church School 11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship 7:00 p.m.—Evening Service 8:30 p.m.—Senior-High Fellowship at the Manse.	<b>THE ANGLICAN CHURCH</b> OF CANADA St. Alban's Church, Acton, Ont. Rev. Evan H. Jones, B.A., L.Th. Rector SUNDAY, MAY 26th, 1957 (TROGATION SUNDAY) 9:45 a.m.—Church School and Bible Class 11:00 a.m.—Beginners' Classes 11:00 a.m.—Matins. No evening service.
<b>ACTON PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY</b> Meeting in the Y.M.C.A. Pastor, Rev. K. J. Reid 81 Cook St., Telephone 949 SUNDAY, MAY 26th, 1957 10:00 a.m.—Sunday School 11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship 7:30 p.m.—Evangelistic Service Wednesday, 8 p.m.—College Prayer-meeting and Bible study.	