The Acton Free Press

The only paper ever published in Acton

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 15th, 1957

Planners Can't Cover Region

A recent editorial in the Hamilton paper endorsed the plan for a regional outlook in the attraction of industry to an area. The editorial also questions whether the regional scope of the industrial organization can be matched by the planners of the province or those of the municipal groups in the Hamilton district.

Seriously we question whether planners will ever be able to develop any long range plans that would be conducive to integrating the development of an area as large as that taken in by the Hamilton Industrial Commission.

As we have been watching the progress of planning, not just in this community but in dozens of others, it appears to be one of the most conflict-causing programs undertaken.

Plans are made in the light of existing conditions. As five or ten men look five or ten years hence, each is caught with a different vision. Visions are difficult to put on paper and thus planning remains, to a large extent, wishful thinking.

Even the best laid and most carefully considered plans are subject to sudden shattering as commercial developments feel it is advantageous to locate on certain land, or industry chooses a particular parcel for expansion.

Perhaps it is should not be so, but those charged with retaining a financial balance for a municipality can find great advantages in the establishment of new commercial and industrial enterprises. And they are supported in this by the taxpayers who benefit from it.

We cannot feel optimistic about the possibilities of planners matching the scope of the industrial commission outlook. Planning is much too broad a problem for that much hope.

Beating for the Benefactor

Kindness usually pays off but every once in a while people get disappointed. A recent news item from the North Bay area tells an age-old story of the hitch-hikers who turned against their benefactor, relieving him of his car and cash.

Picking up a hitch-hiker between Ottawa and Montreal, the driver also picked up two of his friends in Ottawa and the trio jumped him later about 30 miles west of Ottawa. From his hospital bed the driver said the youths beat him up, tied and robbed him before they made off with his car.

His injuries included a two-inch head gash, which required six stitches, plus an aching body produced by several kicks from his attackers.

Many people used to accomplish a good many miles through the friendliness of drivers who would willingly give rides. The times have been changing since the unscrupulous few have been endangering the lives of their benefactors.

The driver in this case said he didn't usually pick up hitchhikers "but the lad looked tired and hot. I guess that was my first mistake."

The result of this, and picking up two friends in Ottawa, was evident when the driver got out to get a sweater. Returning, he said, "I was half in the car, when I saw a flash, looked up and saw a bottle coming at my head. The first kid I picked up was swinging the bottle as hard as he could." The driver was driven to a side road, tied and dumped out. Able to untie his feet, it took three hours for him to cover the mile back to the main road where he was picked up and taken to hospital.

There are hundreds of hitchhikers who have no such intention when they are benefitted by a ride. To them this makes it extremely difficult if not impossible to travel that way.

According to the accident toll, driving is hazardous enough without adding to that gamble the possibility that a hitchhiker might relieve you of your senses, wallet and car.

Wise drivers are ignoring hitchhikers.

Milestone of the Year

Rummaging around the other day we turned out some of the files of this paper that happened to cover the fall period. The files weren't particularly old, perhaps only five or six years, but it is surprising the milestones that form the part of any year.

Looking ahead this year we see many of the same events on the horizon and although we certainly have no great desire to hasten the fall and winter months, we couldn't help looking forward to the fall fair that will be the next major community event.

Of course, it will be closely accompanied by the days of Indian summer, of smoking leaves and beautifully brilliant trees in changing shades. The fall always seems a busy time as organizations begin their winter activities, new organizations spring up and some fail to revive.

There will be the plowing match that seems to have a particular fascination. Those with great ability will be pitting their skill in the age old art of plowmanship. Of course, with the fall comes Thanksgiving and this is usually a memorable and important occasion. Spiritually it seems to provide a reaffirmation of the co-trusteeship of God and man in providing food for the body.

Ahead is Remembrance Day, an event of great importance and significance in its honor to those who bravely protected the type of life we enjoy under the freedom and democracy of this and similar countries.

And on that same theme of democracy we run right into the municipal elections at the end of the year just before the Christmas and New Year's events.

It's really surprising what lies ahead sometimes but the year does have its landmarks or milestones. But away from the fall and let's enjoy this summer weather.

A National Heritage

While the search for new forms or types of entertainment continues in the television industry it would seem time that Canadians might be interested in learning some of their history while watching the electronic marvel rather than being exasperated at the superabundance of American history.

Canada's history is full of romance and color. It is the foundation of a heritage every bit as worthwhile of support as that of our less memorable events south of the border.

Rogers's Rangers were a group of irregular fighters who employed Commando tactics in an age when the set piece battle was the usual method of waging war. Clothed in green buckskin and blending with the forest, they struck deep into New York state and Pennsylvania during the American Revolutionary War.

This is just one group about which interesting documentaries could be admirably prepared.

Think of the trials and tribulations of the immigrating United Empire Loyalists in 1783, or the Rocky Mountains being crossed by David Thompson, the defeat of the Americans at Queenston Heights and the death of General Brock, the days of Confederation, the Riel Rebellion, and dozens of other events could be prepared for television viewing and at the same time be entertaining and enlightening.

Canada's history is as colorful and interesting as that of any country of equal age. It's time it was taken out of moth balls and displayed not only in honor of those who pioneered the country but also for the enlightenment of those of us who follow in continuing and maintaining a national heritage.

Back to Nature

Canada has perhaps the greatest variety of outdoor vacation possibilities of any country in the world, and this is best illustrated by the Dominion's national parks.

Two million visitors a year take advantage of the multitude of activities afforded by the parks, ranging from just viewing beautiful country to bathing, boating, climbing, hiking, trail riding and motoring, plus such sports as fishing, golf, tennis and lawn bowling.

From British Columbia to the Atlantic Coast, the chain of natural playgrounds offers majestic mountains, flower-bedecked valleys, sparkling lakes, foaming streams and picturesque stretches of sea shore.

Hundreds of miles of roads and hiking trails criss-cross the parks, which range from 4,200 square miles at Jasper, Alta., to 2.5 acres at Fort Chambly, Que.

Mountain lovers can wonder at the great peaks of the Selkirks and Rocky Mountains, with their perpetual snow and ice-caps. Eastward on the Prairies are parks dotted with scores of lakes linked by many streams and bordered by soft sand beaches—a paradise for the canoeist and fisherman.

Eastern Canada has lakeshore and island park reserves famous as recreation and camping areas. Along the coasts of the St. Lawrence Gulf, the Bay of Fundy and the Atlantic Ocean seashore areas have been set aside as national parks.

Getting back to nature is always a good thing, and the national parks offer a grand opportunity for this.

—Photo by Esther Taylor

"Dark Boughs Etched Against the Blue"

G.A.D. About...

Pollution Started Away Back

Recently reported as a discovery in a nearby centre was a sign which was seen frequently fifty years or so ago which read: No Spitting on the Sidewalk. In those days of tobacco chewing men and non-smoking women, when a man spat at floor level it was dangerous to the whole public. There was even greater danger of certain pollution of the immediate area.

Headlined in many an Ontario centre in this year 1957, there is an awareness of widespread pollution of water courses, which is causing quite a furore. When we started taking all the plumbing indoors, we brought into effect a new evil.

When I was a youngster, one of the chores was to get a pail of hard water to fill the reservoir. Wells for drinking water purposes might be an average of one to three per block. We secured our drinking water from the well at the Presbyterian church.

There were three wells on Bower Avenue and one on Main Street which supplied scores from that section. Later we had a well at our back door and of course, for washing, everyone had a good cistern. The reservoir on the back of the kitchen range gave the supply of hot water. Today everyone draws water from the inside plumbing from the springs operated by the municipality. With a plentiful supply of water easily secured, some method of disposal was required. Septic tanks provided the answer for a few years.

Then came the era of municipal town sewers. It must have started in the larger centres well over seventy-five years ago because we recall a poem written by the late James Whitcombe Riley. We came across it in a paper we worked on in New York State and at that time pulled a proof. It was a piece of verse that hadn't wide distribution and was called "The Passing of the Backhouse." Today it would be published without a qualm.

Now we have inside bathrooms that are flushed with gallons of water and municipal disposal system. It goes back to the small streams along with industrial waste and unless treated causes pollution and danger to folks who want to go swimming at the old and new swimming holes. It's sort of a vicious circle.

Don't think for a moment Acton is the only trouble spot just because it was in the news recently. Beardmore and Co. have a problem five times as great as the whole town has. They've been working to cure it for years.

Georgetown has found a disposal plant built ten years ago inadequate and will build a new plant at an estimated cost of $960,000. Fergus needs a $260,000 plant. Milton faces an added expenditure for their plant and in the very near future, Acton will require more municipal expenditure in adding to the plant here. The story is the same in hundreds of Ontario towns and villages and as they grow the problem will become more acute.

Of course, nobody would want to go back to the days when we didn't have city conveniences. We have developed the community way of living in ever larger groups.

I once worked in a big print shop where chewing tobacco was prohibited. I was there when the plant was moved to a new building. Painters didn't spit on the floor but there was evidence that they did spit in very inconvenient places.

So we have the evolution of pollution. Not many men chew tobacco these days. You don't see the old signs of earlier years but we have new problems to meet. In the course of time they will be solved. In the days ahead we'll hear some facts and some dances.

We read an article this week which stated that Ion, very near the town of Streetsville, had only 25 homes and a population of 250 people when its sewage disposal system was first built. The town was certainly overcrowded at that time and housing conditions must have been more terrible than at any time since.

We have been building dams, draining marshes, diverting creeks, building disposal systems, striving to make life easier for many years and we're making progress in the solution of pollution. Maybe we need more engineers with greater vision and a clairvoyant who can predict and persuade people to meet our unpredictable expansion.

Mr. I don't even know what I'll discuss in next week's column, but I hope it's something about more industrial expansion and a new growth for people to live and work in Acton.

Our column doesn't have a question mark in the heading this week. Thanks for the kindly remarks from readers about our ramblings.

OBITUARY

Cecil J. Akins Borne to Rest

Rev. A. E. Black, former pastor of Dublin Street United church, Guelph, conducted a largely attended funeral service at the McLaughlin - Wall funeral home, Guelph, Thursday afternoon, August 8 for Cecil James Akins of 18 Elora St., Guelph, who died suddenly at his home Tuesday morning.

The flower bearers were Ralph Grey, Fred Best, John Jackson, Norrie Wilson and James Hawkin.

Pallbearers were Howard Stevens, Art Woolhatt, George Waldie, Allan McLellan, Howard Dingle and Tom McLaughlin.

Interment was in Fairview cemetery, Acton.

Mr. Akins had lived in Guelph since retiring from his farm 12 years ago. He was born in Waterdown on December 9, 1894, and came to Nassagaweya on his early childhood.

Besides his wife, the former Florence Edna Stacey, he is survived by one daughter, Doreen, and a sister, Annie of Acton.

Baptist Church Group Honors Two Members

The Adult Fellowship Group of Acton Baptist Church met recently to honor two of its members who have moved out of town.

A rousing game of softball was played at the High School playground. The group then went to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lyal McCutcheon.

Mr. W. Coles read an address to Mr. and Mrs. Bill Morris and Mr. Gordon Wagner presented them with aluminum lawn chairs.

A delisious lunch was served. Rev. R. Costerus dismissed the gathering with prayer.

THIS SUNDAY'S

CHURCH CALENDAR

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18th, 1957
Speaker: Mr. J. Ashton Turner, Hamilton.
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7.00 p.m.—Evening Service.

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18th, 1957
9.45 a.m.—Church School.
11.00 a.m.—Public Worship.
Speaker: Mr. Wm. Bell, Waterloo College.

ACTON PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY
Meeting in the Y.M.C.A.
Pastor: Rev. K. J. Reid.
81 Cook St., Telephone 649w.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18th, 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.

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
Acton, Ontario
Rev. Gordon Adams, M.A., B.D.
Minister
Parsonage—29 Bower Avenue, Phone 80
Mr. George Elliott,
Organist and Choir Leader
76 Bower Ave., Acton, phone 6

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18th, 1957
Morning Prayed cancelled during August and Labor Sunday. Resumed Sept. 8th.
10.00 a.m.—Junior Church resumes September 1st.
11.15 a.m.—Morning Worship.
Guest Preacher—The Rev. P. Deeth, Hillsburg.

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA
St. Alban's Church, Acton, Ont.
Rev. Evan H. Jones, B.A., L.Th.
Rectory, 185 Jeffrey St., Tel. 265

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18th, 1957
(TRINITY IX)
8.30 a.m.—Holy Communion.
9.30 a.m.—Matins (St. John's church, Rockwood).
11.00 a.m.—Choral Communion.
2.00 p.m.—Holy Baptism.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1907

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, August 15, 1907

A swimming match was arranged to take place on Fairy Lake Saturday evening for a medal presented by Mr. Charles Holmes, an Englishman who recently settled here. By seven o'clock there were hundreds of spectators settled on the east shore of our pretty little lake to witness the interesting aquatic event. There were four entries and the event was won by Frank Parker, another Englishman who recently made Acton his home. The course was from the new clubhouse to the dam.

Mr. Lionel Beardmore's gasoline launch took fire while on Lake Ontario near Bickleborough Beach on Saturday night and Mr. Beardmore and four guests narrowly missed death or serious injury. The gasoline fumes, it is thought, were ignited by a lighted cigar in the hands of one of the passengers. The launch, which was a new one, was valued at $2,000 and was completely destroyed.

Ontario School Readers are now obtainable at the new prices. As follows: for the First Reader, part one 5c, part two 7c; Second Reader 9c; Third Reader 13c and Fourth Reader 15c.

In the scheduled game on the park on Saturday Acton proved themselves the superior players and won the last match 9-3. As in former matches the Acton players did good individual work but failed to make good in combination play.

The high wind prevailing on Tuesday night blew down one half of the walnut tree in the garden of Mr. Thomas Perryman, John St. The tree was heavily laden with walnuts and almost fully developed.

M. Crewson McLaughlin is digging some mighty fine celery as ready well banched.

Butter is selling at higher prices today than ever before in Acton during the month of August.

The rural school bells will ring next Monday.

The Citizens' Band gave another fine concert in the park last Saturday evening.

Last Thursday afternoon a quintette from Acton played a game of bowlers. Four Georgetown men then defeated them 25-11. Players for Acton were: George Hood, M. Smith, A. J. McKay and W. T. Good, Esq.

The foundations and first storeys of the new Free Press warehouse have been completed and the building project is now in full swing.

BACK IN 1937

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, August 19, 1937.

A joint picnic under the auspices of the Women's Missionary and the Ladies' Aid Societies of the United church was held on the school room of the church on Thursday afternoon. The weather being unfavorable, the games were played out of doors but a very enjoyable time was spent indeed.

A crowd of church members and friends of the 10th concession Esquesing held a picnic at Galbraith on Saturday, a day of the best of weather. The afternoon was spent in the swimming pool, the highlight of the event, when Prof. Hopkins addressed the gathering.

Hughie Carver and T. A. Blakelock spoke at the picnic and expressed their views of the coming election.

Taken from an old Acton school roll: Lorne Ide, grade five; Lorne Hamilton, grade four; Ida Ide, grade three; Bessie Ide, grade two.

Now playing at the Lyceum theatre: "War Out West" starring Laurel and Hardy.

The Pupil Teachers' Association presented last week to P.M. W. Roy, G. E. Connell of Acton East.

Mr. J. H. Inglis, the popular agent at the C.N.R. here, has moved to Mr. Roy, who has been transferred to Guelph.

Married: McMillan—Cornish. On Saturday, August 14, 1937, at Boston Mills, by Rev. R. F. Ashton, Ivy Irene Mae McMillan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Cornish, to Grant Malcolm McMillan, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. McMillan.

St. Andrew's Boys' Band of Guelph visited Acton on Sunday evening and provided a concert in the park here.

Mr. Roy Brown and Mr. Bert Brown of Toronto visited their sister, Mrs. Fern Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Frazer and baby of Beaverdale are visiting Acton friends this week.

The reading of Acton papers in the Departmental examinations was completed last week.

The Good Will Club conducted by the Lions Club of Acton, an effort in the community and neighborhood for operating a sporting goods store for the Saturday holiday was a great success. The Saturday holiday was observed by a great many people who visited Acton and participated in the games and to pass the time away while waiting for the results of the draw.

Mr. Geo. E. Bell, director of Young People's Work for the Halton Presbytery, reviews "The Change" in the Sunday School Magazine recently published by the Presbyterian Board.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

MEDICAL

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

DR. D. A. GARRETT
Physician and Surgeon
Corner of Willow and River Sts.
Entrance River Street
Acton, Ontario
Phone 238

DR. ROBERT D. BUCKNER
Physician and Surgeon
39 Wellington St., Acton, Ont.
Phone 679
Office Hours 6-8 p.m.

REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE

F. L. WRIGHT
20 Wilbur St.,
Acton, Ontario
Phone 547
Appraiser, Real Estate and Insurance

WM. R. BRACKEN
INSURANCE AGENCY
8 Mill Street
Phone 26 Res. 555r
GENERAL INSURANCE

J. BERT WOOD
INSURANCE AGENCY
Life and General Insurance
Phone 585 124 Mill St.
After hours TA 4-3950, Guelph

DENTAL

DR. H. LEIB
Dental Surgeon
Office: Corner Mill and Frederick Streets
Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
TELEPHONE 19 - ACTON

DR. A. J. BUCHANAN
Dental Surgeon
Office—5A Mill Street
Office Hours 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Closed Wednesday afternoon
Telephone 148

LEGAL

C. F. LEATHERLAND, Q.C.
Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public
Office Hours: 10.00 a.m.-12.00 a.m.
1.00 p.m.-5.00 p.m.
Saturdays by appointment only
Office 22 — Phone — Res. 151
ACTON

A. BRAIDA, B.A.
Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public
15 Cork St. E., Guelph, Ont.
Phone TA 4-2542
Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Monday to Saturday
173 Main St. South, Acton, Ont.
Phone 576
Office Hours:
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS

HURLEY FUNERAL HOME
Phone 676 night or day
Bruce E. Shoemaker, Mgr.

AUDITING - ACCOUNTING

LEVER & HOSKIN
Chartered Accountants
51 Main St. N. Brampton, Phone GL 1-4871
212 King St. W. Toronto 1, EM 4-9131

EARL G. BLACK
B. Comm., R.I.A., C.A.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
Farmers' Bldg., 165 Main St.
Alliston, Ont.
TR 5-6542

WALTER H. POPE
Certified Public Accountant
Chartered Secretary
29 Mill St. S., Georgetown, Ont.
TR 7-4421

OPTICAL

E. L. BUCHNER, R.O.
Optometrist
48 Mill St. E. Phone 115
Office Hours
Wed. Evenings 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., 2.05 p.m., 5.05 p.m., 6.33 p.m., 8.23 p.m., 10.05 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.).
Westbound
10.27 a.m., 12.57 p.m., 2.57 p.m., 5.27 p.m., 7.27 p.m., 9.27 p.m., 11.32 p.m., 1.12 a.m. (Fri., Sat., Sun. and Hol.)

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS
Standard Time
Eastbound
Daily 5.40 a.m.; Daily except Sundays 10.00 a.m., 7.13 p.m.; Sunday only 8.01 p.m.; Daily except Sunday Flyer at Georgetown 9.02 a.m.; 6.37 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); 7.49 p.m.; Saturday only 1.23 p.m.; Sunday only 9.03 a.m. (flag-stop); Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 7.05 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. 8.31 p.m.