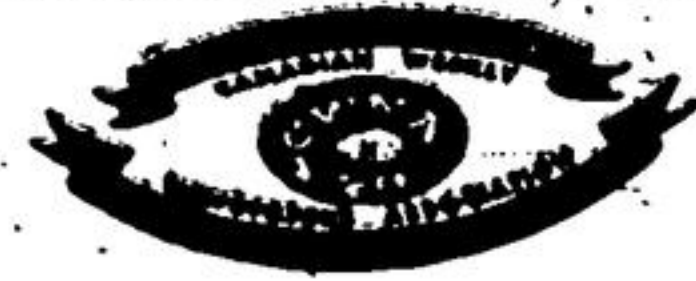


The Acton Free Press

The daily paper published at Acton



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Thursday, October 3rd, 1957

Fire Prevention

Last year in our living and working places, fire claimed 601 lives. It burned and disfigured three times as many more. It wasted more than \$115 millions in property, and the indirect loss to the national economy was perhaps ten times this amount.

This reflects the pattern of our fire destruction for the past 10 years: a total of 5,082 lives, 16,000 men, women and children scarred, and a direct financial loss of \$878 millions, more than enough to build two seaways.

The tragedy is that most of these 647,000 fires in the decade were caused by human carelessness and neglect of simple rules of fire safety and common sense.

This is the message for Fire Prevention Week from Canada's army of 27,000 firemen, professional and volunteer. And while the message is highlighted at Fire Prevention Week, in accord with the Proclamation of the Governor-General, it is stressed by the fire services every day of the year in every community of the nation.

The message is: DON'T GIVE FIRE A PLACE TO START. And, giving utterance to the helpless victims, especially children, women and folk of senior years: DON'T LEAVE US ALONE WITH THE HAZARDS OF FIRE.

The fervent message, told and re-told, has become a national crusade.

Are we so blessed in our abundance and people, that we can afford not to resist a record of waste and tragedy? That we can fail to wish there were more and larger ash trays in every home? That we can fail to see that our stoves and heating equipment on which we in a cold climate must depend for seven, even eight months a year are kept in good working order? That rubbish and trash breed fire? That the difference between a 15 and 30 ampere fuse in an already over-worked electrical circuit can be deadly? ... That the 233 children who perished last year—many of them unattended—were more than were lost in the peak years of policy?

Per head of population, Canada's fire loss for the last 10 years has been one of the world's worst.

Alarmed and shocked by the situation, the two associations of the nation's provincial and municipal fire services united three years ago in an educational programme, directed especially to the home. Voluntary home inspection was encouraged.

For the first time, a reduction, in only a slight one, may be reported in our per capita property loss. Excluding forest waste, the figure for 1956 is \$7.21, compared with \$7.34 for 1955.

While the achievement may be short-run, it is a step in the right direction and offers hope.

Less optimistic, despite last year's 400,000 population increase, is the fact that deaths increased to 601, from 569 in 1955.

Toys and Troubles

We here to rush the seasons but the other day we took a look at some of the latest toys that will be offered this Christmas. Perhaps it was the usual parental interest or perhaps it was the fact that we always did like to look at toys and haven't quite outgrown the activity.

But things have really changed. Progress has crept in to the point where dad will have difficulty effecting repairs unless he takes out an electronics correspondence course. No longer will it just be a wheel that needs fixing or a screw replaced. No sir. With all kinds of trucks and cars coming with remote controls and flashing lights and robots that really move there's bound to be difficulty in the after-Christmas repair shop.

There is a steam engine too, that looked terrific. It doesn't seem too long ago that we saw and played with a similar model. But it's progressed too and now the water is boiled with heat pellets rather than the little candle.

One of the things that sent us into a tizzy when we thought of repair problems was

an electronic machine that transmits and receives messages like the teletypes we've watched in newspaper offices—well almost the same anyway. Imagine this electronic marvel under a Christmas tree and the problem of repairing it after dinner.

Of course there are the building blocks but they've streamlined them too. Now they come as girder and panel sections to effect construction of the latest in architecture.

This progress is great stuff but the repair problems on Junior's toy array are certainly progressing to great proportions.

Secession and Sour Grapes

The appeal of Oakville against the Halton County equalization by-law has been dismissed and the costs assessed to the town. Reason for the dismissal in the word of the hearing board chairman were that "not enough evidence has been submitted by Oakville to prove that the equalization is not fair and proper".

It didn't take long for someone to give new birth to the much-talked-of possibility of Oakville seceding from the county of Halton. One councillor declared he planned to investigate the possible benefits of secession. The town clerk reportedly said there would be substantial savings to Oakville as a separate town.

Maybe we're all wet but the situation seems to smack a lot of sour grapes. Oakville went into the equalization hearing well aware they were bucking the other nine municipalities. If a change in Oakville's assessment had been made it would have meant dollars of assessment, and hence county rate, would have to be added on some other municipality.

The hearing chairman concluded that "All the evidence submitted to date has only proven that there is some difference in the assessing methods used in Oakville and Trafalgar. We can't base our decision on evidence that affects only Oakville and Trafalgar."

We've heard Oakville's talk of secession before and it was usually when they failed to win.

Those Number One Tunes

The hit parade listings that dictate a constant flood of "irritating, startling, disquieting and disgusting so-called popular music" on Canadian radio stations are the result of a monstrous hoax, according to a recent article by a radio station executive.

The article points out that popularity listings are compiled from record-store sales, juke-box preferences, and disc-jockey requests. These three outlets are dealt with almost exclusively by fad-ridden teenagers, the writer notes.

We've often wondered who picked out some of the atrocious "number one" tunes that radio and TV stations are so wont to jam the air waves with and it seems the teenagers are going to get the blame for that too.

We're inclined to think there should be some responsibility laid on the shoulders of those who author the manuscripts. And perhaps too the radio stations might take a longer look at their listening audience and come up with some tunes that don't have the "over-simplified melodies, monotonous arrangements, and uninspired lyrics," that the writer talks of.

It's surprising, though, how radio seems to have gone to some of the programs designed for more pleasant listening. Some of them provide excellent background for reading the paper.

Civil Defence Locally

They tell us that Friday is Civil Defence day. There has been news written for and against this service and its possible effectiveness in terms of any future hostilities.

If wars of the future are to be of the 30 day variety undoubtedly civil defence or any defence will probably only serve to extend the war by about 10 days.

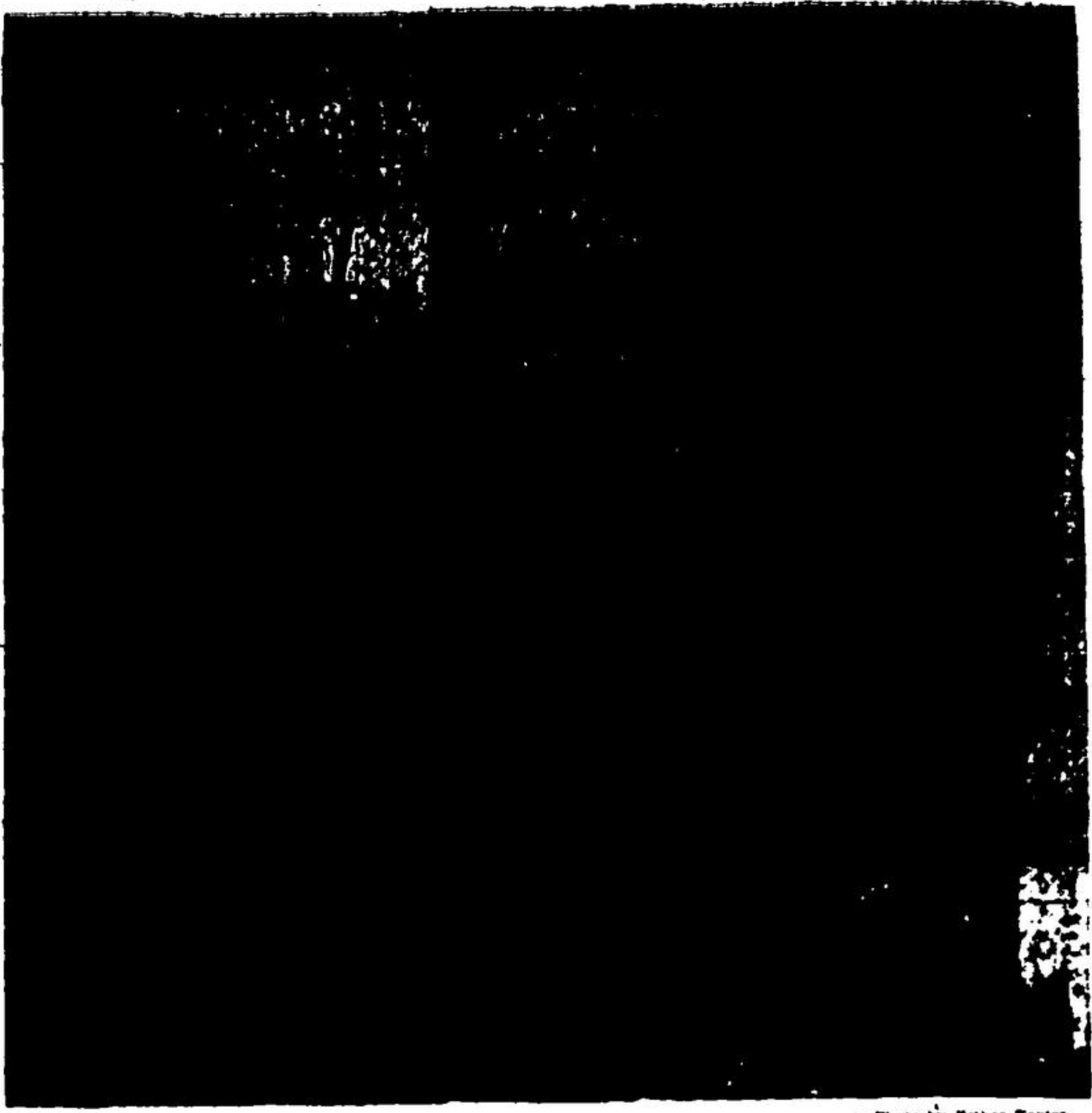
When we think of civil defence, though, there seems to be a much more practical application. The days of Hurricane Hazel are not yet so dim in our recollection that we have forgotten the earnest desire of hundreds of citizens to help. The only restriction was they lacked organization, direction and training.

It's in this field that we see some need and a great value to the groups now being co-ordinated and organized under the banner of civil defence.

Officials in the area feel that a Civil defence organization must be built up gradually and steadily.

Undoubtedly we could do without civil defence if mankind could develop a social consciousness that would permit the whole world to live in peace, or if military authorities could guarantee that no enemy could lay a hostile hand on this nation, or if we could be sure that no disaster of any kind, man-made or otherwise, could ever take place in our community.

In terms of civil defence it isn't simply preparation for a 30 day war then oblivion, rather its more-practical avenue seems to be in times of local disaster.



—Photo by Esther Taylor

Autumn Vista

G. A. D. About ...

Autumn and Modern Changes

There are many things about autumn that do not change down through the years. For instance, we always have beautiful variegated colors in the foliage. We have the chilly nights and frosty mornings and the harvest; the days for preparation before the advent of winter, days when you feel you must get out-of-doors lest you miss one moment of glorious sunshine. May-
[The text continues, describing the author's childhood memories of autumn, the process of burning coal and wood, and the use of a boiler for heating. It details the physical labor involved in preparing wood for the stove, the sound of the boiler, and the satisfaction of a warm home during the cold season.]

In the morning I remember well those days of the old wood stove when the last chore of Dad for the night was whittling up some cedar shavings and getting some kindling together for a quick start before getting breakfast. The wood box behind the stove had to be full of good hardwood, no slabs or limbs but good solid body beach or maple. We worried not about atomic energy or world destructing, but more about the diminishing supply of the forests.

Then came the era of coal burning and away went the nightly chore of splitting enough wood and keeping the wood box full. Remember if you will the days of the Happy Thought ranges and Good Cheer heaters with their ovens and good soft water from a cistern by a pump that was usually frozen from December to April. Maybe you too had to fill the boiler on wash days. Oh yes, and on the day the pig came up for slaughter.

I will remember the first Saturday I was delegated to be dad's assistant, along with a couple of other lads, to help in killing the pig. Saturday was the day because the men were through at five o'clock. First thing to do was to close all the gates so the pig wouldn't get too far away. I never knew why a pig ever needed to be greased to make him hard to catch. But the routine of the yard used to be usually sufficient to get him in position for his fate.

Then came the boiler of scalding water for the barrel and the chore of getting the hair off. It was dusk when by the light of the lantern, the winter's supply of pork was dressed. I never ate a very hearty supper: the night the pig was killed but all was forgotten when those slices of homemade sausage were ready for the table or when the

lion roasts and the ham were dished up with both boiled and roasted beans for a winter dinner. Refrigeration was no problem. The meat would keep in the woodshed or barrel until it was all eaten before spring.

How did I ever get off on this track anyway? Well, it's simple. Last Monday when heat was required at the office, the boys went to fill the boiler and start up the stoker and the water started running down the outside. It had been duly inspected and repaired during the summer months but it didn't take any certificate or engineering ability to realize that a boiler that won't hold water cannot generate steam so we've all been cold all week.

But since the boiler and stoker went into operation, another form of heating has come to Acton. We've got natural gas piped here and some wells have been drilled in the district. Investigation proved that in view of having more buildings to heat and the worthlessness of the boiler and the over-all age of the whole system, it would be wise to heat with gas. So now a hot air gas heating system is going to take over the job which has been done by coal.

Judging from the digging being done about our streets these days and the absence of the noise from the boilers and the over-all age of the whole system, there are many who are doing the same thing. Gone are the days, we hope, when coal has to be shoveled, ashes carried out and smoked polluting the air of the neighborhood.

We are writing this at home where the coziness of the autumn air is tempered by another fuel of the modern age — an oil burning furnace. Each change brings back memories as we travel through life and every development has been for man's comfort. We give thanks for them all and recollections being no deterrent for a return of the good old days. Around our plant are some items of type which were used to indicate the sources of the printed product. They read "H. P. Moore's steam press." This week all the steam goes out of the printing plant in Acton and with it many recollections.

When the new press went into operation in August, we had letters from two of the older printers who in their boyhood had fired the old upright boiler that supplied power on press days fired it with slabs from the saw mill. They are E. J. Moore, now in Washington, and Charlie McLean of Newark, N.J. At the age of 77 Mr. McLean retired last year from setting type on a daily paper by way of the linotype and Mr. Moore, son of a former owner, still wields his pen in the literary field in Washington. Yet, boys, we've seen some changes, haven't we?

It's autumn, again! Some of the birds are getting ready to migrate south but we think in looking back, we can still weather a Canadian winter with the aid of modern conveniences.

BIG HAILESTONES
LONGLAC, Ont. (CP)—Hailestones up to two inches in diameter buffeted this district in a storm that cut a swath several miles wide. Roofs were damaged and many windows broken by the freak storm.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1907

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, October 3, 1907.
A very sad message came to Mr. H. B. Holmes, agent of the O.T.R. on Tuesday forenoon to the effect that his son Norman had his foot badly crushed in the railroad yard at Hamilton where he was employed.

In Guelph, those found guilty of smoking or chewing in the Post Office are fined.
Do the unlikable boys who go out shooting at every live thing they see know that the same laws protect the squirrels all the year, excepting from November 1 to December 1.

Some excitement was caused in railway circles the other day when a freight leaving Acton and proceeding down the grade to Georgetown came down in an unusual hurry. It appears that the engineer mismanaged the air brakes. Fortunately the tracks were clear and by careful application of the hand brakes, the train was stopped by the time it reached the Georgetown station.

The pavement contractors will complete their work here for the season. Their pavements compare favourably with any other that has been laid here.
While in the city on Monday the water leaked to the Mr. T. T. Moore, who is rapidly recovering after his recent operation. Mr. Moore was found taking a constitutional along George St.

Mr. H. McLaughlin has moved into his new home on Wellington St.
J. Blacklock threshed at Harry Higan's fourth concession, Nassau-gate, 943 bushels of wheat and 773 bushels of oats in nine hours and 45 minutes. Total, 1,716 bushels.

Owing to the increased attendance in the High School Department of the Acton school the purchase of a number of new chairs and tables has been necessary.
The Elora Rocks played the final game in the C.L.A. series with the Maillards of Toronto and won in a score of 8-3 on Saturday. This is the place that Acton hoped to occupy at the beginning of the season.

The increasing business of R. Noble has required additional help and Mr. T. E. Young was engaged as accountant and salesman in the store.

BACK IN 1937

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, October 7, 1937.
A fine buck born on a farm owned by Donald Campbell, near Moffat, was burned to the ground. The entire crop of hay and grain was destroyed but no livestock in the spring of this year, the farm house on the same property was destroyed by fire.

Believe it or not, the Editor had fresh strawberries for dinner last Tuesday. Mr. Nesbit, Young St., has plenty of the "Everbearing" type in his garden, which are still producing freely. Mr. Nesbit informs us the plant has been bearing continuously since June.

The opening of the new Y.M.C.A. recreation and club room was attended by many friends and members of the Association.

Richard Sharpe, alias George Grant of Orilla, will face charges in Guelph and Acton of forging a police receipt this week. Sharpe admitted a cheque for \$15 in Acton, purported to be signed from an Acton treasurer. He received \$10 and cash for the cheque. He will appear in an Acton store. He will answer the forged charge in police court in Acton this afternoon.

The date of the annual general meeting of the Acton Branch of the Y.M.C.A. is postponed to Thursday, October 23rd, at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. J. M. McDonald on Tuesday evening.

A grant of \$250 was given to the Continuation School Athletic Association this week by the school board.
Electroning from the sky by Wallace H. Cross, Independent candidate in Halton, believed to be the most unique ever carried on in this riding almost ended up in disaster Tuesday afternoon.

Two of the squadron of five planes got lost in the fog and were forced to land a few miles south of Milton, narrowly avoiding a crash-landing due to the mucky condition of the field.

Good prices were realized at the sale of horses on Monday of H. A. Rasmussen. The animals brought as high as \$147. Yearlings average \$70 each. There seems to be quite an active demand for horses.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

MEDICAL	MISCELLANEOUS
DR. W. G. C. KENNEY Physician and Surgeon Office in Symon Block 43-45 Mill St. E. Acton Office Phone 74 Residence 115 Church St. E. Phone 150	RUMLEY FUNERAL HOME Phone 600 night or day Bruce E. Shoemaker, Mgr.
DR. D. A. GARRETT Physician and Surgeon Corner of Willow and River Sts. Entrance River Street Acton, Ontario Phone 238	OLIVE M. LAMPARD A.T.C.M., R.M.T. Teacher of Piano ACTON STUDIO St. Albans' Parish Hall 14 Park Ave. GUELPH Tuesday only Phone TA 3-3614
DR. ROBERT D. BUCKNER Physician and Surgeon 39 Wellington St., Acton, Ont. Phone 679 Office Hours 8-8 p.m.	E. I. BUCHNER, R.O. Optometrist 48 Mill St. Phone 118 Office Hours Wednesdays 1:30 - 6:00 p.m. Evenings by appointment
F. L. WRIGHT 80 Wilbur St. Acton, Ontario Phone 85 Appraiser, Real Estate and Insurance	AUDITING - ACCOUNTING LEVER & HOSKIN Chartered Accountants 51 Main St. N. 213 King St. W. Hamilton Toronto 1 Phones: GL 1-4625 EM 4-9111
W. M. BRACKEN INSURANCE AGENCY 16 Mill Street Phone 26 8 Mill Street Res. 535-R GENERAL INSURANCE	EARL G. BLACK B. Comm., R.I.A., C.A. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT Farmer's Bldg., 102 Main St. Milton, Ont. TR. 4-545
J. BERT WOOD INSURANCE AGENCY Life and General Insurance Phone 545 134 Mill St. After hours TA 4-3930, Guelph	WALTER H. POPE Certified Public Accountant Chartered Secretary 39 Main St. Georgetown, Ont. TR 7-4651
DR. H. LEIB Dental Surgeon Office—Corner Mill and Frederick Streets Office Hours—9 a.m. to 8 p.m. TELEPHONE 19 - ACTON	TRAVELLERS' GUIDE GRAY COACH LINES COACHES LEAVE ACTON Daylight Saving Time Eastbound 6:33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol.) 7:33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol.) 8:33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol.) 10:38 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.) Westbound 10:37 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol.) 5:27 p.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol.) 6:27 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.) 7:27 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.) 8:27 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.)
DR. A. J. BUCHANAN Dental Surgeon Office—3A Mill Street Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Wednesday afternoons Telephone 145	CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS Standard Time Eastbound Daily 5:40 a.m.; Daily except Sunday 6:30 a.m.; Daily except Sunday 7:30 a.m.; Daily except Sunday 8:30 a.m.; Daily except Sunday 9:30 a.m.; Daily except Sunday 10:30 a.m.
C. F. LEATHERLAND, Q.C. Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public Office Hours: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Saturdays by appointment only Office 23 - Phone - Res. 151 ACTON	A. BRAIDA, B.A. Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public 15 Cook St. E., Guelph, Ont. Phone TA 4-5284 Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday to Saturday 175 Main St. South, Acton, Ont. Phone 679 Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

THIS SUNDAY'S CHURCH CALENDAR

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA Acton, Ontario Rev. Gordon Adams, M.A., B.D., Minister Parsonage—30 Bower Avenue Phone 61 Mr. George Elliott, Organist and Choir Leader 76 Bower Ave., Acton, phone 8	BAPTIST CHURCH —ACTON Rev. Ray H. Costerus, Pastor Parsonage, 115 Bower Ave. Phone 208-W
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6th, 1957 8:30 a.m.—Morning Prayer 10:30 a.m.—Junior Church and Church School 11:15 a.m.—Morning Worship	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6th, 1957 10:30 a.m.—Sunday School 11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship 7:30 p.m.—South African War Veterans church parade.
PREBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA BROOK CHURCH, ACTON Rev. Amiel H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D. SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6th, 1957 9:45 a.m.—Church School 11:00 a.m.—Sacrament of the Lord's Supper 7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship Friday, October 4, 8 p.m.—Preparatory Service	THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA St. Alban's Church, Acton, Ont. Rev. Evan H. Jones, B.A., L.Th. Rectory, 185 Jeffrey St. Tel. 263
ACTON PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY Meeting in the Y.M.C.A. Pastor Rev. J. H. Reid 81 Cook St., Telephone 610-W	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6th, 1957 8:30 a.m.—Sunday School 10:30 a.m.—Morning Prayer 11:30 a.m.—Evening Service 7:00 p.m.—College Prep or meeting and Bible study.
	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6th, 1957 8:30 a.m.—Brotherhood of Anglican Churchmen Corporate Communion and Breakfast 9:45 a.m.—Church School and Bible Class 11:00 a.m.—Healings' Classes 11:30 a.m.—Choral Communion 4:15 p.m.—Holy Baptism