

The Action Free Press

The only paper ever published in Acton



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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31st, 1957

A Welcome Agreement

We're pleased to see that some basis for a rural fire area agreement has been established between the townships and the town.

Arriving at a suitable agreement of this kind is not always easy for either party. The townships usually feel the town is asking too much while the town feels the townships are not willing to pay their share of the costs.

It was regretted that the townships were without fire protection for a lengthy period. It was a difficult situation to be placed in should a serious rural fire break out. The fire chief would want to help as would the man but if equipment was not available through an equitable agreement little could be done.

The present agreement is definitely a compromise. The town has lowered its requests and the townships have increased their earlier offer. The decision to purchase a new truck on the part of the townships, will give a lot more effective fire protection to both the country and the town in case of a serious fire.

The cost of providing the present day necessities for a fire department is continually mounting and this is undoubtedly one of the reasons municipalities are now wiser of the share they have in a department's maintenance.

That the town and country are again being offered fire protection is indeed welcome news. It is hoped the negotiating of a new agreement in three years can be done without loss of service as was the case during the present negotiations.

An Annual Problem

This is the season the hunters take to the fields and the farmers take to erecting "no hunting" signs. The annual event usually causes some harsh words from both sides as the farmer seeks to protect his animals and land and the hunter seeks some sport.

As most farmers admit, it isn't all the hunters that create the problem but the few problem hunters who leave gates open, break down fences and abuse the property of the farmer, that create the difficulties.

Usually farmers are cooperative if permission is asked to hunt through farms, but the co-operation of the farmer is based on the co-operation of the hunter.

One farmer reports he stopped a group of hunters from the city last year and asked if they would object to his entering their home property in the city without permission. Faced with this bit of logic they gained a new understanding of the farmer's situation.

Near Dundalk a young farmer lost a registered Shorthorn cow when an unknown marksman mistook the animal for a deer. The discovery was made when the cow, which was nursing a calf, failed to come to the barn as usual.

There are of course a good many hunters who are co-operative and understanding about the problems involved on the farmer's side of hunting.

It is unfortunate that a few careless hunters annually spoil the field for those who appreciate the problems.

Possible Tax Exemptions

The following editorial was handed to us by a reader who suggested the idea was a good one. While we cannot offer our whole-hearted endorsement of the idea we do have every sympathy for the problem of matching fixed retirement incomes with mounting municipal costs. To exclude some from paying school tax as suggested, however, might lead to further suggestions of excluding some from contributing to old age assistance pensions. The problem is a complex one.

The editorial referred to follows:

A strong recommendation that persons over 60 years of age who own their own

homes should be exempt from school taxes, was one of the chief resolutions put at the final session of the First Ontario Conference on Aging says the Newmarket Era and Express. The conference was held under the chairmanship of Dr. J. D. Griffin at Convocation Hall, Toronto. The four-day conference was attended by more than 600 delegates and representatives of churches, government departments, trade unions and voluntary organizations.

"We have been of the opinion that many senior citizens who have planned well for retirement and own their homes, have suffered hardships caused by increasing school taxes," suggests the Era and Express editorially. "After all, they have paid their share for many years. And their fixed retirement incomes cannot be expected to meet increasing school demands. It is nothing less than unfair when a senior citizen is forced to sell his home because of high school taxes."

Many Go Hungry

The connection between low incomes and inadequate diet is strikingly illustrated in a new report by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

One table in this comprehensive FAO report issued in Rome shows the cost of a representative diet of 3,000 calories, for one person for one day, represented 4½ hours' work by an average factory worker in India.

The same one day food supply represented 3.8 hours of work in Japan, 3.2 hours in Italy. By contrast, the figure is 0.5 hour in Canada, 0.4 in the United States. This particular table is based on 1953 levels.

Three different diets were used for this compilation, the 3,000 calorie one being the highest. Others had 2,500 and 2,100 calories.

"It is apparent that in the poorer countries," says the report, "the more nutritious and expensive diet would be utterly beyond the means of the average factory worker, unless he were a single man with dependents."

"Even for the meager diets usually consumed in these countries, the number of hours to be worked is greater than is necessary in economically developed countries for the much superior diets which they enjoy."

Even an elementary knowledge of nutrition could go far to overcome the handicap of poverty, says the report. Greater emphasis on home economics and consumer education could have important effects on health.

Where average incomes are too low for a fully balanced diet for everyone, there is much to be said for channelling a large share of the "protective foods" to the most vulnerable groups, including children and mothers.

The report calls the spread of school meals and other welfare schemes for such purposes one of the most encouraging developments since the Second World War, and one of the most striking results of the growing knowledge of nutritional principles.

But, it finds, large sections of the neediest of the world's people are still untouched by these developments, and what remains to be done is much greater than has been accomplished.

Life Getting Longer

About 20 years have been added to the average lifetime of American people—since the turn of the century, according to a report to the Health League. The expectation of life at birth on a nationwide basis has increased to 69½ years.

Figures from the National Office of Vital Statistics indicate that the chances for a white man of age 20 surviving to age 65 increased from 514 to 686 per 1,000 between 1900-02 and 1955.

At the same time, more than three-fourths of the men aged 50 may now expect to reach the normal retirement age of 65. The expected lifetime of those reaching 65 also has been extended somewhat, the chances of living to age 75 having increased from 545 to 605 per 1,000. Furthermore, the expected lifetime of men aged 75 is now fully eight years.

The prospects of survival for females have improved so much that women now have better than four chances in five of living to see all their children reach maturity", the statisticians point out. "In fact survival to age 65 is more likely for women at age 20 than for men who have passed their 55th birthday."

Enforced retirement for capable men at 65 will certainly decrease in popularity as lives become longer, or there will have to be a heavy increase in hobbies to keep people happy. Those who spend the larger part of their life working cannot suddenly stop at 65 unless they are physically unable to carry on.



THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1907

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, October 31, 1907.

On the 20th August, an information was laid against James Marchant by George Herbert Hawthorne, charging him with the theft of an overcoat and the articles in the pocket. A warrant was issued for Marchant's arrest at Glen Williams where he was at the time sojourning.

He was arrested and taken to the cells but as the constable was unlocking the cell door, he made his escape. He evaded arrest for over two months but, while in Guelph town on Saturday, Chief McDonald nabbed him and he was taken to jail.

One of the well pleased farmers this year is M. Black who purchased the David Williamson farm last spring. He has a large tract of an excellent sample of grain and has the prides for which owing to the short crop throughout the country will no doubt be very valuable.

The thoughtfulness of Mr. Adams in sprinkling the streets during the dry and dusty weather last week was appreciated by interested citizens.

Chief of Police was called and Madden was found in the lot back of the Cemetery. He was placed under arrest and a charge of assault preferred against him.

He was taken to the county jail that night and will appear in court later in the week following.

A bad frost again proved a real attraction for the culmination of the 35th anniversary occasion of Knox church and on Monday evening between 500 and 600 partook of the sumptuous meal provided.

Recreation was the big feature of the meeting of the Young Ladies Friendly Circle last night at the home of Mrs. J. J. Stewart.

Officers of the group were elected as follows with Mrs. Adams continuing as president officer and Messrs. H. Wilson and H. Lamb as vice-presidents.

President Andy Marrow, Vice-president Helen Lamb, Secretary Hazel Wilson, Treasurer Stella Adams, Recording Secretary Beatrice Parker, and Vice-chairman editor Dorothy Wilson, and Betty Woods, Executive Secretary and Finance D.H.

Auctioneers and Boy Scouts

It is not often that I attend Auction Sales but some way or other I was attracted to the sale of machinery and equipment at the plant of the Wood Counting Corporation in Acton last week. I have visited the plant on many occasions during the past 10 years but my first visit was in 1940 just before it opened. It was being cleared ready for occupancy then and I found Mr. Markon at that time going through and planning the use of the space for the best advantage.

Entrance to the plant was on Frederick Street and the town had to do some road work and filling to get access. There was the usual criticism of council for the expenditure incurred which was eventually finished and through the years we saw the employees come and go up and down Frederick Street. There was a time when the plant was on 24-hour operation that the lunch hours in the middle of the night were bothersome to light sleepers. But the plant was busy and provided a live and for folks in Acton and the surrounding country.

We thought of this and many other things as we followed the auctioneer around in the various lots of equipment. There was nothing we knew how to use. One former workman looked on at a lot of machines he had charge of as they went for \$25 each. In operation they were worth hundreds of dollars each. The crowd moved from spot to spot. The auctioneer kept up his constant "I'm off to five, who'll give me ten" seven-fifty then \$1" said to Hopkins.

The days following have seen many trucks go up and down Frederick Street. There are big and small trucks but gradually the dispersal goes on, some to South America, some to various parts of Canada.

There's something about an auction sale, its buyers and its lookers that is sometimes a bit depressing and leaves many questions unanswered. What someone else has built up and made productive by many folks is scattered to the four winds by changed circumstances.

First auctioneer I can remember in Acton was William Hemstreet and the first sale I ever attended was the dispersal of household effects when my Uncle Tom went to make a new home in Saginaw, Mich. I never did understand why he had charge of as they went for \$25 each. In operation they were worth hundreds of dollars each. The crowd moved over and over again. I can't recall who followed him, but of course many of you will recall the late Roy Hopkins.

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This year they undertook to add a basement under their school hall. They met many unforeseen difficulties in the task but I am told these have been largely overcome. Now, however, they find they are in debt quite a bit more than they anticipated. The Scouts have many friends who have always helped them and are still carrying quite a load but they need more helpers and contributions right now.

I've often wondered what makes groups of Camp Scouts Brownies and Guides grow and get along.

I've wondered often why boys when they become men continue in Scout work and serve with a pay and spend time and effort in supplying leadership. What is it?

THIS SUNDAY'S CHURCH CALENDAR

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

BAPTIST CHURCH
Acton, Ontario
Rev. Ray H. Currier, Pastor
Parsonage, 115 Bower Ave.
Phone 206-W

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd, 1957
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service
com-
8:15 p.m.—Sunday SUPPER
8:30 p.m.—SUPPER

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd, 1957
9:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer
10:00 a.m.—Junior Church and
Church School
11:15 a.m.—Morning Worship

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

St. Alban's Church, Acton, Ont.
Rev. Evan Hayes, B.A., L.Th.
Rectory, 105 Jeffrey St., Tel. 205

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd, 1957
(TRINITY XX)

8:30 a.m.—Holy Communion
9:45 a.m.—Church School
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship

ACTON PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY

Meeting in the YMCA
Pastor: Rev. K. J. Reid
11 Cook St. Telephone 640-W

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd, 1957

10:00 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Cottage Prey-
service meeting and Bible study.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE

Wednesday, Nov. 7th, 1957
10:00 a.m.—Morning Worship

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