



Founded in 1875 and published every Thursday at 95 Main St. E., Acton, Ont. Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulation, the C.W.P.A. and the Ontario-Quebec Division of the C.W.A. Advertising rates on request. Subscriptions: Single copies 10c. Annual \$3.00 in Advance. Single copies 10c. Single copies 10c. Single copies 10c. Single copies 10c.

Published by the Acton Publishing and Printing Co. Limited. G. A. Dill, Editor-in-Chief. David E. Dill, Production Manager. James A. Dill, Managing Editor. Business and Editorial Office - 95 Main St. Acton.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27th, 1958

A Constant Task

People do appreciate improvement of their town and the services that their tax dollars provide. The more visible the service, the greater seems the appreciation. Water works and sewerage services are buried underground and you just don't see Hydro power running through the wires around the streets. You realize only in case of interruption how vital these services are to your everyday way of life.

Perhaps that is the reason there is so much public approval expressed over the program of paving almost all the town streets a year or so ago. We have comparisons so close at hand at every season of the year with paved and unpaved streets. Perhaps it's more noticeable in the spring when the frost starts to come out of the ground. Paved streets are soon drained and dried up while unpaved streets hold pools of water which grow larger and larger until the whole strip of road has to be torn up.

While Actonians enjoy their present fine streets it must be kept in mind that constant maintenance is required to keep this asset. With winter's accumulation of sand and dirt each year sweeping of the streets is becoming a task that cannot be maintained by the present hand method. The town must soon study other methods of mechanized street cleaning. Paved streets are not the complete answer to a clean and tidy town. Keeping the sidewalks clean may well be the easy chore of the individuals but it looks as if the cleanliness of the roads will require an expenditure from the common purse for more equipment.

The Good Voter

Canadians who go to the polls March 31—and correctly mark their ballots—can make the 1958 general election the greatest vote-count in Canadian history.

A record vote of 6,699,532 was cast in the 1957 federal election last June 10, including the armed service vote of 74,437. This was roughly 75 per cent of the total eligible — 8,902,125.

In 1953 there were 8,401,692 eligible voters. The total vote was 5,640,256 and the percentage of eligible voters 67.

The population—not the voters list—of 16,889,000 in 1957 averaged out to about 60,000 for each of the 263 ridings, which elect 265 members. The largest is York-Scarborough, a Toronto suburb with 167,310 population. The smallest, Quebec's Ile-de-la-Madeleine in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, had 11,556. In five years, York-Scarborough more than doubled its population; the Quebec riding increased by 1,557 persons.

Such figures are a vast change from the first Canadian federal election at Confederation. The federation of 1867 of course included only Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. They elected 101 Conservatives and 80 Liberals, for the first Parliament with Sir John A. Macdonald as prime minister.

In 1869 the new Dominion acquired the vast Hudson's Bay Company territories, from which the province of Manitoba was created in 1870 and Saskatchewan and Alberta in 1905.

British Columbia entered Confederation in 1871, and in that year Canada's population reached 3,689,000. Prince Edward Island joined in 1873 and Newfoundland in 1949.

Now, roughly 9,000,000 Canadians have a vote. And the good voter will exercise his right on March 31 to select his representative in Parliament.

Need Development Planning

Annexation approvals are not coming forth from the Ontario Municipal Board as readily as in the past.

Recently in Barrie, R. L. Kennedy is reported to have said however, that rural municipalities will get little sympathy in annexation hearings from now on if he finds they did nothing to prevent the growth of over-busy suburbs.

Annexation is only a partial answer ap-

parently as the Board seems to be directing more thought to amalgamation and joint services. In Halton the rural municipalities are taking steps to enact proper planning procedures and it will be none too soon if Highway 401 is soon to bisect the county.

According to the news item Mr. Kennedy suggested some rural municipalities permitted the invasion of suburbanites because they were "grasping for additional assessment." However this need not take place; both the Municipal Act and the Town Planning Act contained provisions that could prevent suburban development until the rural municipalities were in a position to provide essential services.

While we agree that no property owner should have an abundance of restrictions placed on the land to which he rightfully holds title, it is essential that development be arranged in concentrated areas if they are ever to be economically serviced even at some future date.

In Halton good progress is being made on planning to provide for the future and keep in mind the servicing problems of the future but it is essential that the action be speedy in the north if maximum benefits are to be obtained.

Annexations are not the complete answer to the rapid growth that is taking place but zoning and planning are increasingly important to the future of the county.

Education and Realism

Most every municipality in the country these days is on the alert for new industries around which to mould a satisfactory economy. In an address recently in Toronto Stuart Armour, economic advisor of The Steel Company of Canada raised a rather important question.

"If Canada's most important industry manufacturing—is to continue to be treated as sort of a tiresome nuisance, to continue to be left unprotected against imports from all over the world, who is going to employ all the future graduates of our enlarged higher educational institutions?"

He declared that when manufacturers are approached for further support of higher education they find that the importuning professors are mostly free traders.

"We Canadians can undoubtedly have free trade if we like, but we cannot have it and continue to enjoy our present high standard of living. Moreover, if we choose to liquidate all manufacturing industry to the extent we have already liquidated our textile industry, we shall not for long continue to boast of a population of 17 million," Mr. Armour said.

Educationalists, trade unions and governments will soon need to come to a better understanding of the problems with which business has to cope if Canada is to grow industrially.

B. C. Imagination

They say out West that any excuse is good enough for a party—and British Columbia has a dandy.

The province is celebrating its Centennial this year and the sons of the pioneers are whooping it up in every centre from metropolitan Vancouver to remote Popokum.

The elaborate planning recalls another example of western imagination which shone in Vancouver three years ago when the Grey Cup football classic moved from Toronto to B.C. for a one-day stand.

Before the less exuberant got hold of the reins, Vancouver had an Indian salmon-bake set for the courthouse grounds, an assault on the world's five-room-house-building record on the main Granville and Georgia corner and other hi-jinks.

Totem poles would sprout like crocuses. Libraces of the bugle-beads and candelabra would play.

But saner heads prevailed.

As it was, firecrackers banged long into the night and dragons danced in Chinatown. Beauty queens paraded and the biggest hall in town threw a gigantic party and dance.

For the Centennial, beards are in bloom throughout the province. RCN crews are rehearsing to re-enact the arrival of the SS. Commodore from San Francisco 100 years ago. A vintage car race is planned for Victoria. A pageant "From wilderness to wonderland" is slated for Shalalth and mule teams and old timers' parades for Popokum.

You've heard of a pound cake? A 10,000 pound birthday cake will be cut. A midsummer bonspiel is set for Nelson and a \$50,000 golf tournament for Vancouver. The Grey Cup game is back, the dragons will dance again and the firecrackers bang.

If it isn't a bang-up party, it won't be for lack of imagination.

Brief Comment

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT should act immediately to make it possible for producers outside the Prairies to obtain their feeds at the same prices, before shipping costs, as their Prairie competitors.—Agassiz (B.C.) Advance.



In Step With Spring

G. A. D. About

A Little Bit of Everything

Last week when I talked about the things of forty years ago, I realized my memory had played some tricks. I said that we had whiskey and men had to stand up to the bar to take it. Well, as a matter of history, back in 1918 we didn't have very much whiskey and there weren't any bars. We had prohibition back forty years ago. The barrooms had been abolished in an all-out effort to bring the First World War to a successful conclusion.

Those days forty years ago were the hey-day of the moonshiners and illegal stills. The spectacle of a drunken individual in public was a rare sight. There were said to be bootleggers everywhere. Some of them were former hotel keepers and some of them were direct manufacturers who sold their brew direct to the consumer.

There weren't any high taxes to levy but the fines paid by the owners of illicit stills seemed pretty stiff in those days. Perhaps some of you will recall the kegs of beer that were confiscated after the trial of the proprietor of one hotel. They were taken out to the front of the town hall and a policeman with a fireman's rubber coat on welded an axe on the ends of the kegs and beer flowed down the gutter until it was all destroyed.

H. P. Moore was the magistrate at that time. The Free Press office was then part printing plant and part a judicial centre. One old trunk I recall packed with assorted bottles was stored at the office in the alley until the day of trial, when it was produced in court as evidence against another hotel operator of those days.

I am sorry I made the error in

my recollections last week. Forty years ago, it wasn't the social thing to serve liquor in the homes or in public. There had been a fair start made toward making the consumption of alcoholic beverages an indecent thing.

But time went on and the war was won and we had the loud clamor to do away with the moonshine and the bootlegger and in both Canada and the United States the flood gates were opened wider and wider until we have a fine tax revenue source for all forms of government, big profits for the brewers and distillers and an ever increasing crop of alcoholics and ruined homes and lives. Some day we may again face the necessity of keeping people in a reasonable state of sobriety.

One day recently on a trip to Milton, I looked over the view at the top of the hill and could see the vapor from the big smoke stack at the Cooksville cement plant. The smoke was going high into space. I've also seen the big smoke stacks at Sudbury belching forth their fumes into space.

When there used to be more soft coal used in industry, every town had a tall smoke pipe for most every plant. There are still two huge chimneys at the Beatrice plant in use. There's the one at the old Baxter plant which was erected at the time of the building of Acton's own electric plant and there used to be a tall one at the old Stoney tannery plant.

I can well recall when three of these big chimneys were erected. It was almost a whole summer's work for construction of a tall chimney. There was only room for

two men to lay the bricks and all the brick and mortar had to be hauled up by a small hand-operated windlass.

Seems to me that it is a good thing that modern methods of firing boilers have been developed which obviate the necessity for more high chimneys.

I watched with a great deal of interest last week while tons of steel were moving into formation and the whole frame for a good-sized factory was bolted into place in a week's time. Of course, there are still the walls and the roofs to enclose but truly the speed of construction has been stepped up and there is no visible sign of a need for a big chimney on this newest construction. Belching smoke is no longer a sign of industrial activity.

This is the last week before the voters go to the polls to choose a government for Canada for the next four or five years. By various means, the leaders and candidates have expounded the policies for which they stand. There'll be winners and losers marked up next Monday.

I always enjoy a contest, whether it is a hockey or baseball game or an election. It's the privilege of every citizen of Canada over 21 years of age to make a choice with the exception of those who are inmates of a mental institution. Go out next Monday and register your choice. It's a duty you should not neglect.

Almost forgot to mention to radio fans that I'll be appearing this next week on radio on the Dominion network of the CBC. If you're interested in hearing my views over the air, tune in on "Assignment" between 8:00 and 8:30 p.m. on April 2nd and you'll hear John Mason and your editor talking things over. The recording was made a couple of weeks ago. Just after I had been named Mr. Weekly Newspaperman of 1958 I'll naturally be interested to hear what I did say since I haven't the faintest recollection now. Anyway, that's what's on at CBC on Wednesday evening, April 2nd, at eight o'clock.

POET'S CORNER

MAY TIME

In Spring when robin songs do spill Across our kitchen window sill, And Kathryn has the whistling cough, And Lesley swims in the old horse trough, When all the garden smells of May, And the daisies watch the sun all day, When apple blossoms sparkle white, And crickets start to call at night, When grass is crisp beneath the feet, And fresh barn lambs begin to bleat, When skipping ropes are on the swing, And cheek-red children chant and sing, Oh, that I never see the day, When Winter keeps young Spring at bay.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1908

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, March 26, 1908.

Mr. Peter Hills has bought the John Leavens farm, lot 22, con. 1, Acton.

A very enjoyable evening was spent at the Young People's social in Knox church classroom last Thursday evening. The program consisted of recitations, dialogues, solos and a quartette by Misses Isabel Chapman, Hester Hindland, Ida Graham and Gertrude Johnson. The orchestra rendered several selections which helped to enliven the proceedings of the evening. Refreshments were served after the program. Rev. J. C. Wilson, B.A., acted as chairman.

At the adjourned inquest held at Campbellville, into the circumstances leading to the wreck of the C.P.R. train at Guelph Junction, in which engineer Charles Armstrong of Toronto Junction, lost his life, a verdict was rendered blaming Richard Newton yardman, for negligence.

Heston gave evidence acknowledging that he had made a mistake and turned the wrong switch resulting in the fatality.

Officer Carnahan has not yet received that official cap. He is patiently waiting.

Mr. W. D. Anderson has let the contract for a new brick-veneered house on the vacant lot on Bower Avenue, next to his own residence.

It is said there is likely to be information laid against a certain young youth for supplying liquor to a citizen who is on the prohibitive list.

Contractor Mackenzie tore down and removed the old barn on Dr. Bell's property on Frederick Street last week. Its removal has resulted in a tremendous difference in appearance of the place.

The military openings are in progress this week. The ladies of Acton and vicinity will revel in viewing and admiring the pretty new creations of spring hats and bouquets.

Hazel and Lottie Mason, twin sisters from Acton, played with the Erin ladies' hockey team in Orangeville last Tuesday when they defeated the home-towners 4-1.

Experts declare the twin sisters put up the fastest and most sensational hockey they have seen played anywhere. These two sisters were perfectly invincible with their fast skating, pretty combination work and fast touches scoring all the goals for their team.

BACK IN 1938

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, March 31, 1938.

Born: Currie — On Thursday, March 31, in the Wingham hospital, to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Currie, a son.

Born: Lambert — In Acton on Friday, March 25, 1938, to Mr. and Mrs. Hector Lambert (nee Freda Macpherson), a daughter, Freya Gloria.

Mr. John Aller commences tomorrow morning his new duties as a guard at the Ontario Reformatory in Guelph.

Cars driven by Lloyd McKeown and Jack Airdie collided last night at Mill and Frederick Streets beyond broken bumpers, no damage was done.

Halton County Baseball League was organized at a meeting in Milton last Thursday evening when representatives from Oakville, Acton and Milton met there.

Officers elected were: E. Hyder, president, W. Galbraith, Oakville, vice-president and F. Terry, secretary-treasurer.

On Tuesday evening the members of Hallowell Literary Society held their meeting in the school. The president, Ross Patterson, was in charge. Roll call was answered by the size of your shoe. The main item on the program was the spelling match, which was won by Mrs. J. Dennis.

Last Friday evening the Greenock Literary Society visited the Hallowell Literary Society for a social evening. The main feature of the evening was the spelling match between the two societies, which was won by Helen McCaug for the Greenock society.

One of the biggest auction sales in Hallowell township for some time was that of Wm. Bailey, held yesterday afternoon. The entire stock was disposed of by auctioneer R. J. Kerr in a little less than six hours and good prices were realized.

Mr. and Mrs. John Winters and Jack left last evening for England where they will make their home. The best wishes of many friends go with them to their new home.

The answer to last week's puzzle poem was Collier and the award goes to Miss Wilma West of R. R. 3, Acton.

Acton schools will as usual have entries in the Halton County Music Festival to be held in Hamilton this year.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

Table with multiple columns listing professionals such as Medical, Optical, Accounting, Insurance, and Travellers' Guide. Includes names like Dr. W. G. C. Kenney, Dr. D. A. Garrett, and Dr. Robert D. Buckner.

THIS SUNDAY'S CHURCH CALENDAR

Table listing church services for Sunday, March 30th, 1958. Includes Anglican Church of Canada, United Church of Canada, Baptist Church, Acton Pentecostal, and Presbyterian Church.