

The Acton Free Press

The only paper ever published in Acton



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C. W. KAY, APRIL 10, 1958

Your Share of the Taxes

As the tax man's statistics appear, you will find that the rate of increase in the 1957-58 tax year is a record for the province.

The 1957-58 tax year was the first year since 1952-53 when the rate of increase in the 1957-58 tax year was 5.4 per cent, while the rate in 1956-57 was 5.2 per cent. The rate in 1955-56 was 4.8 per cent, and in 1954-55 it was 4.5 per cent. The rate in 1953-54 was 4.2 per cent, and in 1952-53 it was 4.0 per cent.

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An Envious Record

Chamber of Commerce Week is the best observed throughout Canada. April 13th to 19th is the week when the purpose will be to show to the public that Canada is a fully developed country with a Chamber of Commerce and the great value of such groups to the local community, the province and the nation.

The Chamber of Commerce or Board of Trade is a fact-finding, deliberative organization, designed to build better communities. It performs specific functions, primary of which is to unite the citizens in activities for the advancement and welfare of their home community. It works to promote the best industry.

It is concerned with local business affairs, shopping hours, the availability of facilities to the touring public. The Chamber is concerned with industrial development, the availability of sites that are accessible to railroads and highways, to sewer and water, electricity and natural gas. It is interested in recreational facilities for potential industries, making this one of their first inquiries, in schools, churches, hospital facilities, in auditoriums for public meetings, band concerts, and the like. The active Chamber seeks the location of new industries for their many more people drawing wage and salary cheques, who have to be fed and clothed, amused and kept healthy and happy. Increased population means more people sharing the local tax burden and a broader basis for the tax levy.

The progressive and developing community is invariably found to be one that has

an active Chamber or Board, with its citizens working together for community welfare, studying its problems and cooperatively seeking a solution. The willingness to cooperate and work together exists for the reason that there are no political, racial or religious divisions in the Chamber of Commerce movement. It is democratic in nature and in operation and free enterprise in its approach to all matters.

Acton is fortunate in having an active Chamber of Commerce with an enviable list of achievements. Familiarize yourself with their work and help where you can. Its executives are Chamber.

Fast Economic Growth

There has been a faster rate of economic growth in Ontario over the past 12 years than in any comparable period. That is the gist of a report issued this week that charts the province's development since 1946.

The increase of nearly 175% in Ontario's annual rate of output was made possible by a capital expenditure programme of organic prosperity and an unusually high level of investment in fixed capital year by year.

It is reported that new capital invested in a variety of types of industry in Ontario between 1946 and 1957 amounted to \$21 billion, meaning that Ontario attracted more than 20% of the total new capital invested in all of Canada. The new investment programme showed a consistent increase year by year throughout the period, with the exception of a slight dip in 1954, culminating in an expenditure of nearly \$3.2 billion of new capital investment in 1957, an all-time provincial record.

Consistent with the rise in population has been the rise in personal income in the Province and the nation. Personal income in Ontario rose from \$3.8 billion in 1946 to nearly \$9.3 billion in 1957, more than 40% of the total personal income earned in Canada. Retail sales, a good indicator of consumer demand, jumped from \$2.3 billion in 1946 to \$5.9 billion in 1957. According to the report, this year's increase in retail sales is expected to exceed 10%.

The Boards of Trade did good work in their day. In the Dominion-wide organization they are doing even greater work. Mr. H. H. Ebbage, president of the Acton Board of Trade, was about 40 years of age. In his files I had for a long time the first book of rules and regulations.

Samphire along the line I seem to have lost this copy. I recall it was dated about 1908. My predecessor the late H. P. Moore, was secretary-treasurer and C. C. Henderson was the first president. Membership included nearly all the retail business places, along Mill and Main Streets.

Just who were the retail merchants in Acton back in 1908? Well there were the Henderson Bros., Charles and Milton, H. H. Cusworth, the Kenney Bros., William and John, George Stovell, R. F. Johnstone, A. T. Brown, Wm. Williams, F. H. Ebbage, Robert South, John Williams, Wm. Cooper, H. E. Arnold, Geo. J. Wallace, Ned Patterson, E. J. Haxall, Geo. Hynds, Harold Wiley, Geo. Spurr, T. Statham and Son, C. C. Spurr, Bill Stark and doubtless there were many others whom I can't recall.

Only four of this group I believe are still living. They are Wm. Cooper, E. J. Haxall and Harold Wiley, all still in Acton and George Wallace in Toronto. Of course there are more but this is all I can get back of at the moment.

William Johnstone was always a community minded citizen and of course Murray MacDonald, Archie

Brief Comment...

CLEANUP TIME
The lovely sunny weather is making the snow disappear and once again leaving debris exposed. As soon as possible let us remove as much of it as possible. - Picton (Ont.) Gazette.

FARM FUTURE

Who knows what the future holds for the farmer? Science has certainly given him a great deal in the past 50 years. Milking machines, tractors, combines, balers, weed killers, electric power, quick-freezing processes for his crops, and thousands of new uses for his products. - Stanstead (Que.) Journal.



The Unbidden Guest

G. A. D. About

Acton and I Equals Action

It'd like to join in my column this week in a salute to not only the Acton Chamber of Commerce but to all such bodies in the towns, villages and cities across Canada. Back about 50 years ago we called such groups Boards of Trade. From these small groups without central organization, grew what is today the Canad-wide Chamber of Commerce in which every progressive community boasts membership.

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McKinnon, Reuben McNabb, Bill Storey and others would be among those early boosters for Acton as well as representatives of Boardman and Company, and industry here.

It seems to me that it must have been about 1920 or so when the name Chamber of Commerce became popular instead of Board of Trade. The concern then as now was getting more industry for Acton. There were successes and failures in this field down through the years but the successes greatly predominated because today we have here 18 industries whereas there were only three or four 50 years ago.

These men down through the years who made up the Chamber of Commerce have always been on the alert to get Acton to the fore. Here as elsewhere they are the men and women who are back of and boosting Acton. That was the group who promoted a closed arena, backed the full fairs or horticultural societies, put their shoulder to the wheel to help celebrations, boosted the band, promoted sports and in every way boosted their town.

Not all the work in any town can be foisted on the shoulders of those who serve on elected bodies. There is, however, a place for everyone to serve on the Chamber of Commerce. I like the little slogan that is now in use here.

"Acton and I equals Acton." But right now, Acton Chamber of Commerce is associated in the wider field and has the benefit of experience that comes only from the broader circle that takes in the whole of Canada.

For several years now it has been my privilege to go to Ottawa each year as a Director of the Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association. Each year the Canadian officers of the Chamber of Commerce plan to meet this group and address and discuss matters

which are typical of Canada's towns, cities and villages. They meet during the year like many other similar groups in Canadian business. From this association and contact they present briefs and convey to governments, what appears best in the interests of Canadians as a whole. The Chamber of Commerce today will quote an influence in Canada and the life of Canadians.

This is Chamber of Commerce Week if you are in it. This active organization this year and every year you are losing a lot and every year you are gaining a lot. It's one of Acton's real assets.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1908

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, April 9, 1908

The invitation of the members of the Shakespeare club to the public to assemble with them in the Methodist school room on Tuesday evening to enjoy Prof. J. B. Reynolds' address was largely accepted and the school room was well filled.

The ice skating rink yesterday got pavement and platform and skating rink condition.

Mr. H. B. Harwood has purchased from Mr. John Harvey the lots at the corner of Church and Victoria Streets.

The ground has been laid out for Mr. C. C. Henderson's new residence at the corner of Beaver Avenue and Willow Street.

The bailiff has seized the stock of wood placed on the lot opposite the Station Hotel during the sale by D. A. Buchanan under a chattel mortgage held by Henry Arnold. The wood will be sold by auction on Saturday 10th inst.

Candidate Warren is perfecting his organization in this part of the county this week. He held meetings at Hammondsport on Monday evening and at Dublin on Tuesday day.

The first brigade will hold a religious demonstration on the Dominion Day with very attractive features.

A party of his friends gathered at the residence of Mr. Joseph Cook on Monday evening to give Mr. Allan Bishop a good old-fashioned send-off in the eve of his leaving for Winnipeg. His many friends wish him success in his pursuit in the great West.

The monthly meeting of the Women's Institute was held last Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. H. D. Graham, Willow Street. Mrs. H. P. Moore gave an address on "Household Economics." A question drawer was presented by Mrs. Murray McDonald and a helpful general discussion took place.

Mr. Henry Arnold has deserted of his livery business to Mr. W. H. Rutledge of Strathville. Mr. Rutledge was in the livery business here back in the eighties and is therefore well known.

Several boxes of wool goods have been seen flying northward during the week.

BACK IN 1938

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, April 10, 1938

Appreciation was shown last Thursday evening of the efforts of the W.M.C.A. players in their presentation of "Here Comes Charlie." At the close of the play, Mrs. A. J. Buchanan who presided at the production was presented with a beautiful basket of apricot flowers on behalf of the cast.

Some of the players were Mrs. Charles Robinson, Charles Robinson, Miss Flora Sawyer, Miss Cora of Children, James Ross, Miss L. McMillen, George Mason, Albert Mills, Miss Mary Chalmers, Gordon Cook, Miss Rita McNabb, John Sawyer, Miss Helen Cook, Director was John McNabb.

Acton was again successful this week in carrying off a great share of the awards at the 11th Hamilton Music Festival. Training was given by Miss L. E. Hill assisted by Mrs. Wm. Gentry.

Betty Galloway and Joyce Deane will win first prize for girls' duet, Nancy Brindle and Eleanor Adams, first for boys' duet, Margaret Deane and Betty Galloway, first for girls' quartet, Betty Galloway, Nancy Brindle, Betty Galloway, and Betty Galloway.

One of the biggest prizes was won by Betty Galloway and Joyce Deane for their duet, "The Song of the Lark." They were awarded a gold medal and a certificate of appreciation.

A section of the flooring of the bridge on the highway in Brockton fell through yesterday afternoon after a long time of partial collapse. Repairs are being made and will be completed by Saturday.

Billie Printing and Publishing Co. is now open for business at 50 Mill St., Acton, Ont. Phone 4-1111.

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| DENTAL DR. W. LEIB Dental Surgeon Office: Corner Mill and Frederick Streets Phone 75 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 afternoons Telephone 148 | CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS Standard Time Eastbound Daily 6:40 a.m.; Daily except Sundays 10:00 a.m.; 1:15 p.m.; Sunday only 8:01 p.m.; Daily except Sunday Flyer at Georgetown 9:03 a.m.; 4:37 p.m.; Daily Flyer at Georgetown 10:11 p.m. Westbound Daily 11:44 p.m.; Daily except Sunday 8:50 a.m.; 8:55 p.m.; 1:40 p.m.; Saturday only 1:23 p.m.; Sunday only 9:43 a.m. (flagstop); Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 7:06 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. 6:10 a.m. |
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THIS SUNDAY'S CHURCH CALENDAR

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| THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA St. Alban's Church, Acton, Ont. Rev. Evan H. Jones, B.A., L.T.D. Rector, 185 Jeffrey St., Tel. 265 | UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA Acton, Ontario Rev. Gordon Adams, M.A., B.D. Minister, Parsonage, 20 Bowyer Avenue Phone 60 Mr. George Elliott Organist and Choir Leader, 76 Bowyer Ave., Acton, phone 6 |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 13th, 1958 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EASTER 8:30 a.m. - Holy Communion 9:45 a.m. - Church School 11:00 a.m. - Beginners' Class 11:00 a.m. - Mattins 4:15 p.m. - Holy Baptism | SUNDAY, APRIL 13th, 1958 9:00 a.m. - Morning Prayer 10:00 a.m. - Junior Church and Church School 11:15 a.m. - Morning Worship |
| ACTON PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE 33 Church Hill Road P.A.O. Rev. Kenneth J. Reid, Pastor 73 Cook St., phone 440-W | BAPTIST CHURCH ACTON SUNDAY, APRIL 13th, 1958 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship 7:00 p.m. - Evening Service 8:15 p.m. - B.V.P.U. |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 13th, 1958 10:00 a.m. - Sunday School 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship 7:30 p.m. - Evangelistic Service Wednesday, 8 p.m. - Prayer and Bible Study Friday, 8 p.m. - Christ Ambassador A Friendly Welcome to All | PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA KNOX CHURCH, ACTON Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.D. |
| | SUNDAY, APRIL 13th, 1958 9:45 a.m. - Church School 11:00 a.m. - Holy Communion 7:00 p.m. - Evening Worship |

Representative Says Halton Needs Meet On County Planning

Members of the Halton County planning committee met recently with John Pearson and Martin Sinclair of the Department of Planning and Development. A full scale meeting for discussion of county planning was scheduled for some time in May and three representatives of all Halton municipalities will be invited to attend and learn the Department's views on county planning.

Two delegates from Halton will attend a Woodstock conference on County planning in the near future. Mr. Pearson told delegates that Halton is the furthest advanced in the county-wide planning aspects of any in Ontario.

He suggested it was time for the board to determine the Department's attitude on county planning meet with county council to review progress to date, and hold a joint meeting with representatives of all councils and planning board in Halton.