

## The Record is Set

The weather was bright, the crowd set a record, the midway was the largest ever, the exhibits were plentiful and the competition keen.

That might well be the historical record of the 1958 edition of Acton Fall Fair.

Back of any successful event must lie a lot of co-operation though. There were Rotarians taking tickets, firemen and police directing traffic, St. John Ambulance personnel to take care of emergencies, as well as the exhibitors who took the trouble to prepare and show their exhibits, the directors who planned and carried out the event and the

dozens of others who contributed their share to the success of the fair.

With the records established on Friday and Saturday Acton Fair has new challenges to be even bigger and better in the future. A higher plateau has been reached from which greater objectives may be viewed.

All those who helped deserve credit. None of the tasks were simple but they do emphasize the value of co-operation in a community toward a common goal.

Acton Fair 1958 has been concluded but the records are there for the future.

## Big Time "Chicken"

Back a year or so ago teen-agers were roundly criticized for a game they sometimes played called "chicken".

The game consisted of two drivers racing at each other on a back road and the one who swerved to avoid collision was named "chicken". It was pretty hard on automobiles and equally hard on teen-agers.

Today on the diplomatic front we have two major powers racing at each other and unless some face saving formula is arrived at shortly one of them is going to be named "chicken" before the entire world. If this doesn't happen the resulting explosion might be big enough to flatten the earth.

The whole race seems to be over the previously little-known islands of Quemoy and Matsu off Formosa. Russia has declared

some intentions about assisting China in its avowed intent to reclaim Formosa. United States, in equally strong terms, has indicated its intention to protect Formosa for the Chinese Nationalists.

The situation is getting a little beyond the realm of "kid stuff". The threats have been getting a little heavier, the weapons moved in a little mightier, and the diplomatic furor a little stormier. It's all over some far off land but with the shrinking world bringing distant events closer we may play an important part in these little islands.

The shortest route between Russia and the United States goes right over you know, who. If someone doesn't yell "chicken" pretty soon the cold war may be pretty hot right over top. Neutrality may be just a word.

## Clearing the Waves

Fortunately, we guess, we were not an addict to the late but apparently unlamented quiz show, "Dotto". From those who did make it a regular practice to watch the show, we hear it was pretty dull stuff as entertainment... sort of a kid's game... to which had been added a huge audience on two networks, plus lavish money prizes. Then there came charges of cheating, and then the sponsor, apparently convinced of the truth of the charges, dropped it like a hot potato.

It was almost inevitable that similar charges should then be made against some others of the quiz programs.

So far, nothing has been proved and there may be nothing seriously wrong with any of the operations. But the very fact that the \$64 question had zoomed up to a \$64,000 question in a few years and then on into the stratosphere of possible winnings, lent

itself to question, and maybe naturally, to charges by disgruntled contestants who had seen the dangling bait of a fortune suddenly jerked away from them. Certainly the charges made should be fully investigated and the last faint question of their honesty settled.

But beyond the matter of cleaning up the shows where or if there were questionable practices of giving unfair advantage to some contestants over others, the fracas will, we hope, draw attention to the fact that the TV waves have become cluttered up with this type shows. Those instead of good solid entertainment and programs designed in the public interest, convenience and necessity.

We would say that the quiz business has been run into the ground, and the "Dotto" incident and others may serve to restore some degree of balance in TV programming. Anyhow, let's hope so.

## Fence Building and Mending

In the interview reported in the August issue of the Kiwanis Magazine, Ken Lohbed of Toronto, newly elected president of Kiwanis International, was asked the following question: "Having been a resident of both countries (Canada and United States) what do you feel is the essential difference between Canadians and Americans?" His answer was: "Their place of residence. I can't see any others."

A correspondent of ours writes from the United States: "One thing that worries me no end is that all too many newspaper editors both in Canada and United States are picking on a scab and doing their best to develop it into a real sore. I refer to the minor differences which exist between our two countries which definitely can be settled amicably by talking the matters out. Over our histories we have had these minor differences and have resolved them by sitting down as the good friends that we are to discuss them and arrive at decisions that were equitable. I see no reason why we should not continue along with that same orderly procedure."

Addressing the International Kiwanis convention at Chicago recently, Sidney Smith, Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs, had this to say: "Oftentimes as I ponder matters concerning relations between the United States and Canada my mind turns to a favorite poem by Robert Frost, which tells of a fence which has to be repaired at spring mending time, and the poet says:

"I let my neighbor know beyond the hill,  
And on a day we meet to walk the line  
And set the wall between us once again."

As the poet has done, I like to ponder whether good fences make good neighbors. It seems to me so much depends upon the neighbors, so much depends on the kind of fence. If they are unneighborly neighbors, a fence separates them. If they are friendly neighbors, the fence becomes a meeting place where they can come and talk about their common interests and their common problems. I think the fences can be a symbol of some of the best things... the fence between Canada and the United States... is a very low fence and it has many gates. Sometimes, it is difficult for us to cooperate with others in the uncertain world... But a distinguishing characteristic of personal and national maturity is the ability to look abroad and to love even those people whom you cannot always like.

"Among ourselves in the United States and Canada, there is not much problem about liking one another... I do not pretend for a moment that there are no unreserved points of difficulty; there inevitably are, just as there are unresolved differences of view between individual persons within a country. The important thing is that the good will which has made it possible for us to resolve many problems in the past and to deal in a friendly manner with those problems which we now face, should be made to grow and expand..."



## "Canine Gypsy"



**THE NEXT CLUB** I join is going to be the Home Fires Club. The rules will be simple. The club will meet weekly in the members' home. Admission would be open to those who know they should be spending more time at home but just can't seem to manage it because of other meetings. The agenda of club meetings will be hobbies, reading, sleeping, maybe even just a fire in the fireplace. There won't be any special preparation for the meetings, no baby sitters will be required, no special menu necessary. There won't be dues and raising money for worthwhile projects will be completely banned. The number of prospects should be tremendous if the busy people I've heard from lately are serious in their desire for that weekly night at home.

**IT ISN'T FIRE** prevention on week yet but the other day I noticed two cyclists, one with a carrier loaded with daily papers. The other was playfully lighting matches and throwing them at the loaded carrier. Seems silly but there it was. So we really do need all that "staggering" about fire prevention.

**READ A PIECE** in a magazine published in Detroit that says the auto has been a big moral force in this country. Outside of cutting down on the hanging of horse thieves, I can't actually think what they are talking about.

**A GROCERY CHAIN** successfully applied psychology to move day-old bakery goods usually sold at reduced prices alongside fresh-baked products. While housewives seemed to appreciate the lower

**IN RICHLAND CENTER** Wis., hurried into court for stealing his brother-in-law's car, Melvin Vest, 21, got a one-to-five-year sentence, explained to the judge, "I thought my sister deserved to have a new car, and I figured if I stole the old one they could buy a new one with the insurance money."

**THE MODEL T FORD** will be 50 years old on October 1. There are still about 12,000 of the rattling relics in service, though.

**THE SHERIFF'S** office in Columbia, S.C., said a seaman stopped by a deputy recently contained the driver and 18 passengers, 16 of them children. The car was stopped for speeding.

**SOME TIME** ago we read an interesting article about the racket of chimney fixing. You may be familiar with it. Anyway it goes like this. Man comes to the door and says he is doing some chimney work around the corner and, in passing, couldn't help noticing that your chimney is in dangerous condition. You don't know enough about it to deny it. You say you'll let him fix it if the price is right. He quotes you a low price. But by the time the little fixer is through with you he's earned enough work to put you in the poor house.

The other day we heard of a case in Peterborough, Ontario, that turned out happily. A householder had been victimized. Told his neighbor about it as a warning. Couple of days later, the same neighbor approached the neighbor. Neighbor said to go ahead. Man leaped a ladder against the house and went up to start his dirty work. Householder removed the ladder. Called the victim. They had a little chat. Justice triumphed. Ladder repaired. Crook descended. Forked over. Left town.

**BOITARY** **Was Church Elder Clerk of Esqueing** Isaac M. Bennett passed away at his home in Georgetown on Tuesday, September 16, after being ill for a month for several years.

Born in Eden township, July 5, 1879, he was the youngest and last surviving member of a family of 12 of the late Mary Zimmerman and Thomas Bennett.

For many years he formed one of the old vestments and after his first marriage to Anne Biddell of Ashgrove moved to a farm on the seventh line below Halfway. Their union was blessed by a daughter, Noelle.

Thirty years ago this fall he married Emma Cook of Ballantray and went to live in Georgetown. For 25 years he was Esqueing township clerk. He died of a heart ailment on account of ill health.

He was an active member of St. James' United Church, Georgetown, for many years. He was a man who loved his church, his community and his friends.

Left to mourn his loss are his wife, his daughter, Mrs. William Cook (Nurses) and four grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted on Tuesday afternoon in St. James' United Church by a former pastor, Rev. C. T. Odell of Niagara Falls. Mrs. Gordon Kofsky, a cousin, sang "The City Four Square" interment was in Greenwood Cemetery, Georgetown.

pallbearers were Calvin Miller, Frank Peter, Morgan Madill, James Fisher, Robert Bingham and Thomas Bennett. Flower bearers were Dave Lindsay, Robert Corley, Fred Corley, Jack Miller and Bill Price.

When the war of 1914-18 ended, Canada participated in the peace conference and signed the treaties of peace, which gave her the right to a seat in the League of Nations Assembly.

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS

### BACK IN 1938

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Sept. 19, 1938.

Acton street lights are being controlled by an electric eye for one week starting September 27th. This device turns on the street lights when outside light intensities fall below 1½ foot candles. It turns the lights off in the morning when the light rises to 1½ foot candles.

Further improvements to the general store property of Elliott Bros on Mill St. are underway this week. An addition is being made at the west corner that will square out the store building and enlarge the dry goods section. Provision is also being made to remove the stairway from the centre of the store and have it go up at the rear of the building.

A wedding was solemnized on Saturday afternoon at the home of the bride's parents when Ada Lawrence Elliott, Acton, was united in marriage to William Hamilton Peck, president of the Mt. St. George W. Peck of Rockwood, Rev. E. A. Brooks of St. Albans Anglican church, Acton, officiated.

The High School field day was held on Wednesday. School championships were feebly contested for. The following are the champions: junior golf, Bruce Biddle; junior boy, Gordon Kelly; intermediate girl, Marie Clayton; intermediate boy, Ken Blaw; senior girl, Doris Bolton; senior boy, Martin Hassard.

New heating equipment is being installed in the Baptist church. Twenty new high-voltage wires have been installed this week on No. 7 highway in Acton. The new sign posts are heavier than those formerly used.

On Sunday morning the Fall Rally of the United Church Sunday school was held jointly with the church service. Mr. A. T. Brooks, superintendent, was in charge of the service. The Bible Chained and Free was the subject and four scholars, Misses Laverne Smith, Lois Dawkins, Alberta Gibson and Leonard Lambert, told of the contents of the last 4000 years.

At a council meeting on Monday evening, residents of the east end of Mill St. complained of the nuisances kept in that section. Girls and pigs were being kept close to residences. The noise of these animals was kept up day and night and the animals were claimed to have been kept at the front of the lot and sometimes were on the street.

### BACK IN 1908

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Sept. 24, 1908.

Sunday was a red letter day with the Methodist congregation in Rockwood, it being the occasion of the reopening of their church. For several weeks the church has been undergoing repairs and has been greatly improved in appearance.

The annual Children's Day service was held in Knox Church last Sunday morning. Rev. J. C. Wilson delivered the sermon and Miss Gerty Johnston sang a solo. Mr. George Hynds, superintendent, conducted the service.

Couldst that section of Mt. St. from Mill to Church receive a good coating of gravel as well as the other sections? It needs it badly.

Acton champions of the Halfon-Peel league were defeated by the Milton side in Milton on Saturday by a score of 5-2 in the first of a series of home and home games.

The day was none too good for baseball, it being cold and dark and the few fans who gathered in shivered through the time money of play. The cold made the players loathe to keep warm and they put up a lively exhibition.

The convention of the Liberal Conservatives of the County of Hutton will be held at Milton on September 24. It is for general election that Mr. David Henderson, M.P., will be given the unanimous choice of the party to contest the county at the coming Dominion election.

Council met on Monday evening in regular session. After two years' experience with the meter system applied by all electric services, where 4-cp lamps and upwards were used it was decided that it was most satisfactory and in order to put every customer of electric current on an equal basis, a by-law was passed requiring that meters be installed on all service lines. It was noted whether it be one or more lamps.

About 10.30 yesterday, Stephen M. J. P. Watkins lost a cow. It happened in the early morning in room setting, that the farm was on Fox. The cow stood very long in the east end of a little over an hour. The large barn with its addition and contents was badly destroyed. A horse and some pigs were rescued, but the farm equipment was lost. The loss will be about \$200 on which there is some insurance.

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