

Too Little Too Late

We are pleased this week to publish the statement released by Mayor Cook regarding the planned vote on the abolition of the Public Utilities Commission.

May we suggest it comes a little late. Ratepayers indicated their interest in municipal affairs by attending in good numbers, the nomination meeting on Friday evening. The subject was only hastily mentioned and then never detailed. At that time ratepayers would have had an opportunity to question the advantages and disadvantages of the planned change in administration. Now there is no time left for public questioning.

From only a hasty study of the mayor's statement we can, however, find several immediate questions. In several places operating deficits are mentioned while the rate setting responsibility lies with the council. It would seem only reasonable that adequate rates would return adequate revenue.

While the necessity for hiring casual labor is cited as a reason for deficits we can hardly see where the suggestion that the town's working force be amalgamated under one head supervisor, who would ef-

iciently correlate all requirements pertaining to the different departments will add any additional work force. The only addition would appear to be a super superintendent.

As the mayor points out the Public Utilities Commission was established in 1926 when water receipts and expenditures were approximately \$6,500. Today they have more than tripled. It must follow then that the responsibilities have increased equally. If in 1926 it was felt that a separate group should supervise that revenue we can hardly see how today's overworked councillors, already burdened with an abundance of committee meetings, can be expected to handle efficiently three times the responsibility.

There are other items that ratepayers will want to question in the proposed vote even at this late date. Never in the history of Acton has so little been said to late on a question voters were asked to express an opinion on.

If the change is a worthy one it will stand the fire of public debate. This, we feel, is sufficient reason for retaining the present Public Utilities Commission until more information might be given the voters and public discussion allowed to follow.

How Annprior Got Industries

Getting industry is almost a mysterious thing. Just why one city or town is chosen among the many seeking a certain business is hard to assess, says the Owen Sound Sun-Times. The case of the small, and isolated town of Annprior, in the Ottawa Valley, 42 miles from the capital city, provides a number of interesting facts. It was once a wealthy lumbering town, but in recent years, its once over 5,000 population had slipped to 3,700. Now it is booming again.

"Getting industry is mainly a matter of doing a high selling job with lots of good public relations," says Mayor Robert Simpson. "We had a serious problem. We met it by making land available for industrial expansion, and by making a tax concession to the first company we interested, Playtex, Ltd."

At a public vote, 95 per cent of the town's citizens voted to give the Playtex firm a fixed assessment for a 10 year period. That vote was an important factor since the company already had surveyed 125 other towns, the mayor said. However, concessions now are a thing of the past.

The mayor was dining at a New York night club with J. T. Schofield, industrial representative of the Royal Bank of Canada, when he heard the giant Pfizer U.S. drug making firm was interested in locating "somewhere" in Canada.

The firm already had decided to erect its plant either in Toronto or Montreal. But the mayor did not give up. Finally, the company

agreed to at least look at Annprior and wind. "Where is it and how do we get there?" The group from the company "just about turned this town upside down when they came," the mayor recalled. "They wanted facts and we had the facts for them."

Here are a few of the facts the company wanted and got. Survey and contour maps of the area, elevation and routes of all rail sidings, analysis of raw and filtered water, soil tests, flow of the Madawaska and Ottawa rivers, aerial photographs of Annprior and estimates of the cost of various services.

After that initial visit, Mayor Simpson spent much time travelling between Annprior and the company head offices. He argued, he captivated, he talked. Finally, he won.

Summarizing why the company chose Annprior, executive vice president John A. Davenport said: "Our decision to locate in Annprior was based on many factors. You have a nice town, it is well located. The people are intelligent and hard working."

"You must have modern schools and a progressive retail shopping district."

"But I must say that the approach of Mayor Simpson and W. F. Freedy, town engineer, to our problems, the many requests of our engineers and officials, was the best we have seen."

"These women are thoroughly familiar with the requirements of industry and have not hesitated nor delayed in getting all the information we wanted or any information they even thought we might need."

A Sound Suggestion

The suggestion by the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, in a brief before the Gordon Committee on Organization of Government in Ontario, that they consider the needs of small businesses in its investigation of governmental hazards and regulatory bodies is a sound one.

The small business that is the back bone of many communities is constantly meeting new problems and new responsibilities. Not only is there the problem of profit and loss but also the problem of increasing governmental requirements or red tape.

A small business operator that hires another clerk immediately gets an introduction to income tax deductions, compensation and a host of others.

We realize that problems are not all heaped on by the provincial government but it matters little to the small operator which government originates them.

It used to be that the industrious individual could start his own business without a great deal of difficulty. Now it seems almost essential that he get not only his own services but also those of a bookkeeper as well.

The farmer is a small business operator too and we have no doubt he would, if it was financially possible, want to appeal some of the decisions concerning pipe lines

and hydro lines crossing his property. The problems of this type may well come under the study of the Gordon Committee with some possible relief for the small business operator.

Brief Comment

The sight of the crisp new fallen snow on Monday morning was a welcome change from the threatening skies of the previous weeks. At least now we know winter is closer than we thought.

Nomination meetings in Halton have been bringing little change in many municipalities. Trafalgar residents won't be voting this year since approving the two year term.

The Powell River News says "The average worker never sees" the money that is withheld from him by his employer to be turned over to the government. Consequently, there isn't too much public pressure brought to bear on Ottawa to redress this condition. But, if every man and woman who worked for a living received his or her full pay check on payday and then remitted to the government in cash the amount that he is assessed, the sound and fury would blow the tower off the nation's capital."



Quiet Waters



IF YOU'RE NOT DIRECTLY INTERESTED IN THE MATTER...

- IF YOU'RE NOT DIRECTLY INTERESTED in the matter at hand, you should think again. The south Halton communities of Acton, Milton and Georgetown have 1142 businesses affected with 644 in Georgetown alone. For Acton they represent a weekly payroll of \$19,360 for Georgetown \$4,576 and for Milton \$20,440. In a year that adds up to something like \$47,507.20. That makes it a pretty big problem for the economy of this area if that plant closes.
- WITH SPEECH MAKING in a public hearing it might be good to recall the custom of a South African tribe that considers long speeches injurious both to the speaker and his audience. To protect both there is a custom that every public speaker must stand on one leg while addressing his listeners. As soon as his other foot touches the ground his speech is brought to a close. His force is necessary.
- JOBS ARE getting fewer all the time. Repairmen are now called maintenance craftsmen, clerks are administrative staff and office boys are communications expeditors. Strangely enough though the boss is still just plain boss.
- THE BRANTFORD Expositor observes that the old statistic that the average person spends one third of his life in bed hasn't been true since late TV arrived.
- IF WAGE increases aren't inflationary, as some labor leaders contend, then adding water to soup won't thin it, contends the Kitchener-Waterloo Record.
- JUST IN CASE you're interested, noseprints of dogs are as unique as human fingerprints. No two are alike. Several Canadian kennel clubs have been filing noseprints for years as a means of identification. And the Animal Economy Co. of America, the first kennel club to do so, is using noseprints on its dog tags.
- NEVER GO OUT looking for trouble. Be patient and it will eventually find you.
- SUPPOSE by some quirk of fate you could possess 30 million dollars. Then suppose you were approached with an offer to bet the \$10 million against \$1 on a race a boxing expert or any of the various games of chance. Would you bet your vast fortune against a lone-one buck? Of course not! Even the dumbest man in the world wouldn't go for odds like that. The average adult of 35 has some 10,000,000 minutes to live. Every time he takes a chance to save a minute, he wagers all his remaining years. Instead of money, he risks his life. There are many of us who bet our lives day after day by taking chances against these terrific odds. Time, we have won this far. But, one day our luck will run out, and then we will surely lose. Think it over. Is it really worth the tremendous risk?
- E. H. Hallman, writing in Illinois Central Magazine.
- THINKING THE other day about the difficulty of getting information to get them to a fire. Then I thought this up on my desk and it seemed as though it might be from the Ontario Fire Dept. Firemen don't have a chance. When the fire truck arrives at a fire, it takes them 20 minutes to get there. When the truck leaves at 40 mph, it's back at the fire in 40 minutes. When four men struggle with an eight man ladder, they don't even know how to raise a ladder. When faced with a fire window, fire ventilation is reduced to fighting a fire. Look at the working crew! When they open the door to get at a blaze, there goes the axe squad. If the chief stands back when he can see and direct his men, people say, "He didn't go where he could see a fire. When faced with a fire, he didn't amount to much." It's of water is necessary. They are doing more damage with water than the flames. If a fireman gets hurt, he has a chance. If a fireman gets hurt, he has a chance. If a fireman gets hurt, he has a chance. If a fireman gets hurt, he has a chance.

THIS SUNDAY'S CHURCH CALENDAR

- UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**
Acton, Ontario
Rev. Gordon Adams, M.A., B.D., Minister.
Mr. George Elliott, Organist and Choir Leader.
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 1958
9:00 a.m. - Morning Prayer
11:15 a.m. - Morning Worship
10:00 a.m. - Junior Church and Church School
7:30 p.m. - Y.P.U. Fireside
Children under 5 invited at all services.
- BAPTIST CHURCH**
ACTON
Pastor: Rev. Gordon M. Holmes, B.A. B.Th.
115 Bower Avenue
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 1958
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
11:00 a.m. - Public Worship
7:00 p.m. - Song Service
"The Night of Desolation"
A Cordial Welcome to All.
- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
IN CANADA
KNOX CHURCH, ACTON
Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D.
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 1958
9:45 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
7:00 p.m. - Evening Service
- THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN**
THE MARTYR
Rector: Rev. H. B. Stockreef, L.Th., S.T.B.
185 Jeffrey St., phone 365.
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 1958
ADVENT SUNDAY
8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist. Corporate Communion, especially for the men and boys of the church. Breakfast afterwards.
9:30 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Beginners' Class.
11:00 a.m. - Litany and Sermon.
7:00 p.m. - Devotions, also the film "Lambeth Walk" in color and sound and "The Quartet" under the direction of Mr. G. Musselle.
- ACTON PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE**
33 Churchill Road
P.A.O.C.
Rev. Kenneth J. Reid, Pastor
75 Cook St., phone 649-W
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 1958
10:00 a.m. - Sunday School
11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
7:30 p.m. - Evangelistic Study
Tuesday, 8 p.m. - Prayer and Bible Study
Friday, 8 p.m. - Christ Ambassador.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1938

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Dec. 1, 1958.
There will be no municipal elections in Acton this year. On Saturday evening when the time for qualifying had elapsed just sufficient had taken the declaration and all the offices were filled by acclamation. Reeve F. J. McCutcheon, committee chairman, said that the council for next year will be A. Mason, F. Jones, J. B. Chalmers and W. J. Healy. On Saturday night will be J. M. Boyd, V. B. Hundy and F. S. How.

On Friday afternoon the Acton Congregational School Literary Society had the pleasure of listening to an address by Mrs. MacDonald, better known as I. M. Montgomery. Mrs. MacDonald spoke of her childhood days on Prince Edward Island. A poem that was enjoyed by Margaret Bonarville and Dora Hanson.

The first snow of any consequence for this winter arrived on Saturday, November 26.
The vocal solo by Miss Ruth Gibson and duets with Mr. Norman Gibson were well received at the hand concert given by the Ladies' Guild in the large auditorium at Church Street, Hospital Terrace, last Sunday evening.

Yesterday was the first day on which traces could be seen in Acton. To avoid the possibility of a road block Mrs. Spangol, of the Public Utilities office, shows the collection not as large as last year at the same period.
Roads were rather treacherous for a day or so this week.

A two weeks mission which has been in course last week at the Baptist church and the work in the United church is drawing to a close. Much to the regret of many who have responded, their own spring is overflowing. The Rev. Dr. Vining is a forceful, sane and constructive preacher. The meetings have been largely attended.

It was rather interesting to note that Halton County Council has passed the resolution urging against compulsory pasteurization of milk in the province. In view of the weight of medical and scientific data it is a bit difficult to understand this attitude.

BACK IN 1908

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Nov. 11, 1908.
Messrs. Fred Wilds and William Johnson were each successful in shooting a deer on their recent trip north. Mr. Wilds favored the Free Press with a generous cut off his skin which arrived last week.
Mr. J. H. Mackenzie, contractor, has the foundation ready for another double house on Main St. He will utilize the frame of the old Adams house at the corner of Church and Main Streets and move it to the new foundation next to the house recently sold to Mrs. John Mackenzie.

Milton water has had Morgan Brown down the water with an additional supply of water for the inadequate town system. It is alleged that he located a large spring available for addition to the present supply.

Messrs. Johnson and Co. have just been unseated in their contest in the offices and stores of a row of the Canada Great Works. They made a very fine job which has greatly improved the appearance of the premises.

It was a very interesting gathering of Halton County Council members at the annual meeting of the annual dinner of the Halton County Council at the Hotel Hamilton. The Rev. Dr. Vining, of the United Church, presided. The Rev. Dr. Vining, of the United Church, presided. The Rev. Dr. Vining, of the United Church, presided.

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TRAVELLERS' GUIDE
GRAY COACH LINES
COACHES LEAVE ACTON
Standard Time
Eastbound
8:33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and
Hols.) 8:58 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 2:08 p.m.
5:08 p.m. 8:33 p.m. 8:33 p.m.
10:08 p.m. (Sun. and Hols.)
Westbound
10:27 a.m. 12:27 p.m. 2:27 p.m.
5:27 p.m. 7:27 p.m. 9:12 p.m.
11:32 p.m. 11:2 a.m. (Fri., Sat., Sun.
and Hols.)
CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS
Standard Time
Daily 6:44 a.m.; Daily except
Sundays 10:00 a.m.; 7:18 p.m.; Sun-
day only 8:01 p.m.; Daily except
Sunday Flyer at Georgetown 8:25
a.m.; 8:25 p.m.; Daily Flyer at
Georgetown 10:11 p.m.
Westbound
Daily 11:44 p.m.; Daily except
Sundays 8:30 p.m.; 8:55 p.m.; 9:45
p.m.; Saturday only 8:25 p.m.; Sun-
day only 8:43 a.m. (flagstop); Sun-
day only Flyer at Guelph 7:00 p.m.;
Daily except Sat. and Sun. 8:12 p.m.

The Acton Free Press

Published by the Dills Printing and Publishing Co. Limited
Founded in 1875 and published every Thursday at 56 Mill St. E., Acton, Ontario. Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations, the C.W.N.A. and the Ontario-Quebec Division of the C.W.N.A. Advertising rates on request. Subscriptions payable in advance, \$3.00 in Canada; \$4.00 in the United States; six months \$1.75; single copies 7c. Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.
The only paper ever published in Acton
G. A. Dills, Editor-in-Chief
David R. Dills, Production Manager
James A. Dills, Managing Editor

BUSINESS AND EDITORIAL OFFICE PHONE 600, ACTON