Are You Guilty?

We're pretty dejected 64% of Acton voters figured it was not important enough for them to vote on Monday.

64% figured they were too busy to be interested.

In the course of a year we attend a lot of public meetings. Unless there is really a controversial issue the general public couldn't care less about what councils and school boards do.

Of course the members are open for regular street corner buttonholing discussions after action has been taken. So seldom though do citizens express either opinions or interest when a public group is wrestling with a contentious problem.

And then comes election time when every one has a say . . . but the silence is downright deafening.

The day may come when we'll have to have professional councils and not have any choice in their appointment.

Supposing we had a professional council made up of an accountant, an engineer, a lawyer and a couple of experts on planning and assessment. They could hold meetings weekly in a number of communities and avoid the necessity of elections.

They would be tremendously effective but do you think they'd have any real concern for the individual taxpayer?

Maintenance of the local level government is important but it won't be maintained by the 64 per cent who don't take the time to vote.

Are you guilty of helping to weaken municipal government?

Brighten Christmas Mail

Christmas seals have again been distributed in the area this year and this year marks the 51st anniversary of the Canadian TB Christmas Seal Campaign.

In 1908, when the first seals were sold, TB was easily the first cause of death even though there were frightful epidemics of small pox, diphtheria and typhoid fever. Today because of controls such as x rays, and miracle drugs paid for by Christmas seals, TB has been held at 13th place.

There's nothing particularly new about TB. It was known in China before the Great Wall was built and even in those early days the Chinese realized there was some relationship between soiled hands on food and disease. That's why they invented chop sticks.

Doctors explain TB is caused by extremely hardy germs. They can remain alive in your body for years without causing disease until the conditions are right for it. This explains why one person out of every five in Ontario is found to have TB germs but no active disease and how others seem to get TB for no good reason at all.

TB costs Canada $40,000,000 annually not including lost wages. The cost of sanatorium care to effect one single cure may run as high as $6,000.

One never really knows the problems of tuberculosis until it strikes in the family. Help for the families, patients, and x rays to locate other cases in their earliest possible stages, are just some of the things your contribution to the Christmas Seal campaign can make possible.

Brighten your Christmas mail with seals and strengthen the fight against tuberculosis by getting your contribution off in the mail today.

Useless Here

Municipalities are receiving outlines of the winter work stimulation plan fostered by the federal and provincial government. A close study proves the plan almost useless to centres of this size.

The 75 per cent grants available apply only on labor. The project must be one that would not normally be undertaken at this time and labor involved must be mainly from the ranks of the unemployed.

While there are undoubtedly projects in town on which the 75 per cent. grant would be most acceptable, the cost of materials on which no grants are available considerably limits the field.

In this day and age of declining municipal autonomy projects that would not necessarily be undertaken at this time, could not easily be rushed through the many approvals in time to make them effective.

Then too, it is doubtful if a work force, with the necessary percentage of unemployed could be recruited for any very large project.

While there may be unemployment to a comparatively limited degree here the government assistance program will do little to assist at the municipal level.

Rather it would appear that here any unemployment might better be combatted by having householders and industry carry out any improvements or maintenance plans possible.

This is important too in maintaining local craftsmen at the fullest possible level of employment.

It appears that any winter work stimulation plan can't look to the municipal level for support with so many restrictions placed on the available grants.

An Old Fashioned Winter

It looks like one of those old fashioned winters. The snow has arrived and, as this is written, it looks like it might stay.

What is an old fashioned winter? The term is one that conjures up the best of all the seasons past.

It brings back memories
Of days of long ago,
When your heart found perfect happiness
In gentle falling snow.

You remember many happy times,
The snow forts that you built,
Each chubby smiling snowman
With his funny hat atilt.

The sleigh rides and the laughter,
All seem to echo still,
And again you see your merry friends
Who slid upon the hill.

A snowfall's magic wonder
Brings back the long ago,
And if you don't believe me
Take an evening walk in snow.

That's how LaVerne P. Larson sees the magic of the snow.

The old fashioned winter also conjures up the big drifts, the jingling sleigh bells, the sense of friendliness that pervaded at the general store, the cutting of a Christmas tree, the warmth of the big old kitchen, the visits of friends.

Everyone has their own ideas of the "old fashioned winter" and with the joy of those warm thoughts, who can but hope for an "old fashioned winter."

Brief Comment

It was Monday morning and the small-town minister was greatly shocked when he unexpectedly came upon his wife with her hand in the coins gathered during the Sunday church collection.

"Martha, what are you doing?" he exclaimed.

"What do you think I'm doing?" she replied, annoyed. "I'm looking for a button to sew on your coat."

The Acton Free Press

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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

—Photo by Esther Taylor

"Winter's Touch"

Jim's Jottings

● BIGGEST RUSH of the week for retailers report was the purchase of snow tires. The Monday brought out some buyers but the Friday snow placed a terrific demand on the supply of the winter weather tires. I waited until Friday morning before applying them and by Friday night I was mighty thankful to have them.

● THE SEASONAL warnings about cheque artists, shop lifters and other shady practices are being issued this year. It's difficult to catch them all but sometimes these types of individuals descend on a town and skip with a fair profit.

● WE'RE CERTAINLY living in a world of marvels. An electronic computer, indexing the famous Dead Sea Scrolls, proved it not only could calculate, it could do some guessing too. The mechanical brain had to fill in letters and words missing from the crumbling old documents, by analyzing what came before and after gaps. In tests, where portions of known text were covered, the machine "guessed" correctly as many as five consecutive words. Maybe some day I'll have a typewriter that will relieve the necessary thought.

● BUT THEN it's been discovered that you use little more energy when you are thinking that when you are not. University of Pennsylvania researchers checked brain-energy requirements in a group of subjects while they did problems, while they loafed and while they slept. There was virtually no change.

● AN AMERICAN visiting a small English town lost a valuable dog and he asked to have a notice printed in the local evening paper offering 100 pounds for the dog's return. Evening came but no paper appeared. The American waited and finally strolled around to the newspaper office. The only one there was a night watchman. "Isn't the paper coming out?" he enquired. "I doubt it, sir. The whole staff is out looking for a lost dog."

● WHILE THE beauty of the white blanket of snow isn't hard to appreciate I can't help feeling sorry for the hundreds of birds that have to forage for their food. Why not arrange some kind of outdoor feeding station for the feathered friends and enjoy their regular appearances.

● PERHAPS YOU'RE ONE of those early birds who has your Christmas shopping all done but if not you may be interested in knowing there are just 17 shopping days to Christmas.

● ONE OF THOSE town over city advantages is found in the winter where the radio, after the first few snow flurries, reports bottlenecks on city streets. In the towns the number of drivers sharply decreases and the number of pedestrians rises just as quickly. In a small town you can still walk to work if you have to.

● ONE OF those apt quotations that the Reader's Digest picks up appeals to me: "Why must we have enough memory to recall to the times detail what has happened to us, and not have enough to remember how many times we have told it to the same person?"

● OBSERVES THE Sykesville Post - Dispatch, "Now what this country needs . . ." How many times have you heard it said? How many times have you said it? What this country really needs is for us to stop calling it "this country" for us to begin speaking of it as "our country". It is not just a country. It is a very special country.

● NOT THAT it matters but did you know what the difference is between a wigwam and a teepee? The wigwam, built by eastern Indians, was covered with birch bark; the teepee of Plains Indians was covered with buffalo hides.

● CHANGES IN Acton's business section keep occurring but most of the vacancies are now filled up and it's a good sign too.

● WITH COLD weather here and snow on the ground it shouldn't be too long before there's a sheet of ice in the arena. Of course it can't happen overnight though and if the cold weather breaks a lot of work just melts away.

● THOSE HYDRO rate adjustments advertised in last week's Free Press should be welcome news for consumers. It's just about the first thing that has gone down for a long long time.

B. A. C.

(Brotherhood of Anglican Churchmen)

NEWS

On Wednesday evening, November 26, the B.A.C. Chapter of the Church of St Alban the Martyr held its general meeting for the month and it seemed to have had a face lifting of sorts. Yes sir, new topics for discussion, keener interest in existing activities and what a change in atmosphere . . . toys, toys and more toys . . . on the tables, on the floor and on the chairs.

This was all the result of a terrific response to our request to have folks bring in to the Parish Hall, used toys in fair condition, so that men of the B.A.C. might make minor repairs and forward them to the Synod office for distribution among the Eskimo children, TB patients at the Hamilton sanitorium. By the close of the meeting, the Rev. H. B. Stokreef had a carload of toys already conditioned for delivery. They were taken to Hamilton on Friday.

Election of Officers

This meeting also was called for the election of officers and the following men will hold these offices for the coming year: president (by acclamation), William Barratt; vice-president, Ken Hewat (St. John's, Rockwood); secretary, Tom Lynch; treasurer (by acclamation), V. Bristow.

Other committees were formed with their respective chairmen.

Only recently received and confirmed into the fellowship of the Anglican communion, it was heartening indeed to see the keen interest already shown by Tom Lynch and George Melia. As members of the B.A.C., they have much to offer in the way of knowledge and experience regarding planning and programming.

We welcome these men, along with other new members, who will be flanking us as we move forward in fellowship and stewardship for Christ's church.

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, DECEMBER 7th, 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 minded at all services.

ACTON PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE

33 Churchill Road
P.A.O.C.
Rev. Kenneth J. Reid, Pastor
75 Cook St., phone 640-W

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th, 1958

10.00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7.30 p.m.—Evangelistic.
Tuesday, 8 p.m.—Prayer and Bible Study.
Friday, 8 p.m.—Christ Ambassadors.
Pentecostal Tabernacle is one of the sponsoring churches in the Oral Roberts Crusade in Hamilton Forum, Dec. 9-14.

BAPTIST CHURCH
ACTON

Pastor:
Rev. Gordon M. Holmes, B.A., B.Th.
115 Bower Avenue

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th, 1958

9.45 a.m.—Sunday School.
11.00 a.m.—Communion Service
No evening service. Bible Society meeting at Knox church.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA
KNOX CHURCH, ACTON

Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th, 1958

9.45 a.m.—Church School.
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7.00 p.m.—Bible Society Service for Acton community. Preacher, Rev. B. L. Walden.

THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR
ANGLICAN

Rector: Rev. H. B. Stokreef, L. Th., S.T.B.
185 Jeffery St., phone 285.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th, 1958
THE 3rd SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8.30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist.
9.45 a.m.—Church School.
11.00 a.m.—Beginners' Class.
11.00 a.m.—Choral Eucharist.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1908

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, December 3, 1908.

The bright sunshine and mild weather last Saturday attracted quite a number of citizens out to the woods again to gather beechnuts. The nuts were still plentiful and the outing genuinely enjoyed. To spend such an afternoon in the bush with a picnic thrown in is somewhat unique for this time of year.

J. Saltz, late of Toronto, has opened in the Pearson store on Mill Street. He has a brand new stock of fresh vegetables and provisions and a general stock of dry goods and clothing.

At the evening service at St. Alban's church last Sunday, Rev. M. Wilson, M.A., who has been the rector the past three years, announced he had offered and accepted the appointment as rector of the churches of St. Stephen and Holy Trinity in the mountain in Hamilton.

A burial certificate was refused in the case of Lige Van Fleet who was found dead in a fishing shack at Bronte on Friday. Van Fleet was on his way home from Oakville and it is supposed that in some way he had been poisoned at that place and suffering from the effects of the drug had gone into the shack where he was afterwards found dead. A post mortem was ordered by coroner, Dr. Spears.

Mr. Frank Webster had his left hand painfully injured at the Beardmore Tannery this week.

The annual High School concert was again one of the highlights of the year and was well attended on Monday evening. H. P. Moore distributed the diplomas to the successful students and the balance of the evening was spent in listening to Rev. Dr. Cleaver of Toronto, who has a wide reputation in the literary field.

Four dealers in Toronto were fined $10 and costs each on Tuesday for selling tobacco to minors. The police are determined to bring all offenders to time. It is rumored that Acton has a storekeeper who is selling tobacco to schoolboys. Surely if such is the case the offender is unaware of the very strict provisions of the law against such sale.

Mr. Robert Bennett has removed to his recently purchased farm and Mr. G. A. Black has come to town to the residence vacated by Mr. Bennett and family.

BACK IN 1938

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, December 8, 1938.

One of the most enjoyable functions that have been held at the Y.M.C.A. was last Friday evening when the special features committee arranged a social evening for the members and their friends. It was also a reception for Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Jones and Marylin, who are now in charge of Acton Y, and removed from London the day previously.

Workmen commence this week making alterations and improvements at the former Beardmore warehouses getting ready for the occupancy of the building by the Mason Knitting Company, who secured the property a couple of months ago. The east wing is being made ready for the manufacturing part of the plant and other parts will be used for storage purposes which has been a serious handicap to the company up to the present time.

The spread of fire from overheated stove pipes threatened to cause damage to the residence owned by Mrs. Woods, Crescent, on Friday morning last. The fire brigade was called but damage was reported to be slight and the fire was under control before the brigade arrived. The call was received just before nine o'clock.

With his left leg cut off above the knee, William Gadreau of Montreal is an Guelph St. Joseph's Hospital in critical condition. Gadreau fell from the top of a freight car laden with Christmas trees on Tuesday at the C.P.R. Guelph Junction. He was seated on top of the car with Mickey LeBlanc of Windsor when he overbalanced and fell. His legs straddled the tracks and one of the wheels passed over his body.

At the General Sessions of Halton County held in the Court House, Milton, his honor Judge W. N. Monroe was presented with a pair of white gloves by W. J. Hampshire, sheriff of the County of Halton, since there were no criminal cases on the docket.

The Dublin Literary Society met at the school last Friday evening with Mr. Steele the president, in the chair. Harold Barber, who was in charge of the program, was assisted by Miss Young and Rachel Mullin was made chairman for an interesting program.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

MEDICAL

DR. W. G. C. KENNEY
Physician and Surgeon
Office in Symon Block
43A Mill St. E., Acton
Office Phone 78
Residence 115 Church St. E.
Phone 150

DR. D. A. GARRETT
Physician and Surgeon
Corner of Willow and River Sts.
Entrance River St.
Acton, Ontario
Phone 238

DR. ROBERT D. BUCKNER
Physician and Surgeon
39 Wellington St., Acton, Ont.
Phone 679
Office Hours 6-8 p.m.
Afternoons by Appointment

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8 Mill Street
Phone 26 Res. 535-R
GENERAL INSURANCE

J. BERT WOOD
INSURANCE AGENCY
Life and General Insurance
Phone 585 124 Mill St
After hours TA 4-3950, Guelph

DENTAL

DR. H. LEIB
Dental Surgeon
Office—Corner Mill and Frederick Streets
Office Hours By Appointment
TELEPHONE 19

DR. A. J. BUCHANAN
Dental Surgeon
Office 5A Mill Street
Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Closed Wednesday afternoon
Telephone 148

LEGAL

C. F. LEATHERLAND, Q.C.
Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public
Office Hours: 10.00 a.m.-12.00 a.m.
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Saturdays by appointment only
Office 22 — Phone — Res. 151
ACTON

A. BRAIDA, B.A.
Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public
173 Main St. S., Acton, Ont.
Phone 976
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1 p.m. - 9 p.m. Saturdays
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TA 4-2242
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Saturdays 9 a.m. - 12 a.m.

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EARL G. BLACK
B. Comm., R.I.A., C.A.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
Farmer's Bldg., 165 Main St.
Milton, Ont.
TR 8-6342

TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

GRAY COACH LINES
COACHES LEAVE ACTON
Standard Time
Eastbound
8.33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hols.); 8.58 a.m.; 11.23 a.m.; 2.08 p.m.; 5.08 p.m., 6.33 p.m.; 8.33 p.m.; 10.08 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.).
Westbound
10.27 a.m.; 12.57 p.m.; 3.57 p.m.; 5.27 p.m.; 7.27 p.m.; 9.12 p.m.; 11.30 p.m.; 1.19 a.m. (Fri., Sat., Sun. and Hols.).

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS
Standard Time
Eastbound
Daily 6.44 a.m.; Daily except Sundays 10.00 a.m.; 7.16 p.m.; Sunday only 8.01 p.m.; Daily except Sunday Flyer at Georgetown 8.03 a.m.; 9.23 p.m.; Daily Flyer at Georgetown 10.11 p.m.
Westbound
Daily 11.44 p.m.; Daily except Sunday, 6.30 a.m.; 6.50 p.m.; 7.45 p.m.; Saturday only 2.22 p.m.; Sunday only 9.43 a.m. (flagstop); Sunday only Flyer at Guelph 4.05 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. 6.13 p.m.