A Colorful Reputation

Acton could be establishing quite a reputation for itself. These Christmas lights are just about the most attractive arrangement we've seen in any town for a good many years.

The Chamber of Commerce organizers of the effort, the town merchants who donated and the local hydro men who did the erection work, are to be highly commended.

Many towns are about for one thing or another and some have special and elaborate Christmas lighting. With a consideration of the effort expended this year and the community cooperation of merchants and business men over a period of several years, this town could attract viewers with its gala color at the Christmas season.

Apart from that it puts a twinkle in the busy, often hectic Christmas season. All these lights seem to add a little more glow, some of a little more happiness, even kindle a few more conversations. These to our way of thinking are one of the important contributions to the everyday life that the Christmas season makes.

And in this by-product, add to the Christmas spirit of friendliness, cheerfulness, joy and fellowship. We're proud of the local display and just as soon as we can print some good pictures in this week's paper to prove it.

Remembering Everything

Christmas is coming!

Yes, the day when the children awake to find an evergreen beautifully decorated laden with large and small gifts from Santa, mom and dad and friends. It's the day when friends and relatives arrive to help clear the table of turkey and trimmings. It's the day the world observes the birth of Christ the King.

Mom and Dad are busy now, preparing and mailing Christmas greetings to far-off friends. They've already made up the gift list and many of the presents have been purchased. By now the tree has been picked out and decorated. Already Mom's thinking about the menu for the big dinner next Thursday. And the children are helping with the decorations.

There's so much to plan, so much to remember. But wait, have you remembered everything?

Did you remember to turn off the lights on the tree when you left the house? Was the tree placed in a pail of water to keep it fresh as long as possible? Was the tree placed a safe distance away from a doorway which might have to be used in an emergency in the event of a fire? Is it safe?

And those gifts, were they placed out of sight when you left the house? Were the children warned when you retired up the Merry Christmas lighting on the front of the house? Did you leave the children with a responsible person who knows what to do if the emergency rubber hits? A great week when the presents are opened, will you remember to quickly clean up the wrapping papers and burn them or will you leave a dangerous fire hazard in your home?

Remembering these things will be to you to enjoy the things you thought to remember — and make your Christmas a merry, safe Christmas.

A Changed Fellow

It's little wonder that Santa Nick is especially popular in the North American people. History proves that the North Americans have done a lot for Santa Nick.

The North Americans have given Santa Nick a new name, a new face and home and a new means of transportation.

The original European version of Santa Nick was an angular man with a pale face, a long grey beard. But the North American Nick looked jolly. He looked as if he had just had a good meal in some time. The Santa Nick we know today is a cheerful, rotund, twinkling man with a cheery face and a black stocking.

The early European version of Santa Nick was a stern figure who rewarded the good children and punished the bad children. Santa Nick was a strict disciplinarian.

The early European version of Santa Nick was a lonely figure. He was a bachelor who had no home to go to on Christmas Eve. Santa Nick was a lonely figure who had no friends. Santa Nick was a lonely figure who had no friends. Somehow the name changed. Somehow the outlook changed. Somehow the world changed. Somehow the world changed to Santa Claus.

However, the world changed, the people changed, the name changed, Santa Nick remained a lonely figure.

In 1609 Wouter Van Twiller, governor of the Province of New Amsterdam, the Dutch settlement on the island of New York, wrote of the Dutch settlers celebrating the feast of Sinterklaas (Santa Claus) with a banquet, dancing and merriment. The Dutch settlers brought Santa Nick to the new world. The Dutch settlers made Santa Nick a jolly figure. The Dutch settlers made Santa Nick a lonely figure.

[illegible]

Warning for Drivers

One for the road often means two or more for the ditch, the Canadian Safety Council has said.

In a stepped-up campaign against Christmas holiday drinking, the council has asked its 8,000 members and outside of members to take a new look at their office parties and other keep the joy in the bottle or eliminate the parties.

The council also is enlisting the support of churches of every faith and creed to keep the threat of drinking drivers to a minimum over Christmas season.

"We have no desire to dampen the Christmas spirit," the council said. "We only want to eliminate a definite source of death and destruction on the highway."

Council surveys show that a drinking driver was involved in 55 per cent of the Christmas holiday accidents last year.

Social drinkers not the obvious drunks are the big menace on the highway, the council said. Car weavings of the obvious drunk usually can be detected or avoided, but the social drunk, whose critical judgment is impaired even with a small amount of alcohol, appears normal until his wits fail him in an emergency.

Three hours are needed to work off the effect of two cocktails, the council warns the [illegible] drinker. And coffee doesn't help. Only time and time [illegible] the blood stream.

The Council also warns that no one is [illegible] although some persons can tolerate alcohol better than others due to body weight and other physical factors. But even some impairment can be a deadly matter at the wheel.

Omitting liquor at office parties means that no drunk or tipsy drivers will leave parties to injure or kill themselves or others on the way home.

Brief Comment

The sale of the Georgetown Herald, our nearest neighbor, announced last week left us with mixed feelings. We feel happy for its publisher who undoubtedly considered it a wise move and who won't be so burdened with the cares of future capital investments. We felt a little sad, like losing a friend, though, to see another weekly pass from its private ownership. We're happy to see the present editor and his staff will be continuing, and we look forward to a continuation of the happy neighborly relationship with the new publishers.

The Acton Free Press

Published by the Dills Printing and Publishing Co. Limited

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The only paper ever published in Acton

G. A. Dills, Editor-in-Chief

David R. Dills, Managing Editor

BUSINESS AND EDITORIAL OFFICE PHONE 600, ACTON

"Hushed and Austere"

Jim's Jottings

● HUSTLING OUT of the office Christmas cards to get to churches on Sunday, we just passed a little girl singing a Christmas carol as she walked down along the street. She was carrying a few cardboards in her hand and she stopped attention. We wondered if she realized the excellent music in the carol she was singing. Haven't even checked to see if Santa Claus for a [illegible] but always enjoy Christmas.

● WHEN THE clocks [illegible] out the night is to block the lack of street lights of this town is really magnified. Just [illegible] that it was like so many Christmas seasons ago when the lights were unknown and [illegible] to be a couple of [illegible]. It must have taken a [illegible] to finish the warm glow of Christmas on parade. We just equate [illegible] the light effect.

● WATCHING THE weather forecast on an American television station is certainly different from that broadcast in Canada. The American weatherman draws a line at the 49th parallel and shows it there is nothing. It is [illegible] to be of about [illegible] necessary as Canada. On the Canadian station there is a mark of distinction between the two countries but the states are all indicated and the forecaster often refers to them by individual names.

● THIS WEEK'S issue is on Wednesday but next week you can get your Christmas Free Press on Tuesday. But now we don't catch up to ourselves completely, we'll be back on the Wednesday, January 4, then to Thursday again for [illegible] weekly issue.

● OUTDOOR Christmas lighting is taking another big jump ahead this season reports the Financial Post. Industry, merchants and businesses will pay an estimated $10 million for the night-time Yuletide season this year. That's a 25 per cent increase. It's over [illegible] some 700 per cent on the [illegible] 12 years.

● SCANDINAVIANS serve a rich rice pudding containing one almond. Their Christmas dinner. They believe the person who gets the almond will be married within a year.

● KEEPING THE roads from being snow-blocked seems especially important at the holiday season of the year. During the winter of 1957 — [illegible] were [illegible] and new interchanges. During the period over 700,000 tons of sand and 1,000,000 tons of salt were used on Ontario highways and [illegible] highways [illegible] and [illegible] 270 miles of township and [illegible] were plowed. It's sometimes a full order to keep those roads open.

● WE HAVE no more right to cheer happiness without paying dividends than we have to insure wealth without producing it. — G. B. Shaw.

● A RECENT publication pointed out that 40 years ago 97 housemakers were at home, three had outside jobs, now 38 are at home and 14 have outside jobs.

● THEN THERE'S the church in Niagara Falls whose rector tired of confetti on the lawn after weddings and posted this notice to bridal parties: "If you must throw something, throw grass seed."

● A COLD IS both positive and negative. Sometimes the eyes have it, sometimes the nose.

● THE REASON a dollar won't go as much for people as it once did is that people won't do as much for a dollar as they once did.

● WE ARE all blind until we see. That is the human plan.

Nothing is worth the making if it does not make the man.
Why build these cities glorious,
If man unbuilded goes?
In vain we build the work unless
The builder also grows.

Edwin Markham

Tips on Touring

By Carol Lane

Women's Travel Authority

That drive you take next week to spend Christmas with family or friends will be easier and more fun if you do a little planning now. Here are a few tips for holiday motor-visits.

First about the gifts. This is especially important if you take children and if you leave home on Christmas eve. You'll probably want to take things the children can open Christmas morning.

Avoid Gift Damage

Wrap the gifts now and pack them in a carton. You can slide it into the trunk at the last minute. This will save time and avoid damage that can occur if gifts are tumbled in.

If you make the round trip on Christmas day the children will probably open their gifts before you have left. They will want to take some of their own things with them. Let them take small gifts that take little space in the car and that they can enjoy and share at someone else's house.

In Proper Shape

Second, about the car. You'll probably leave it outside if you go for an overnight visit. If there's a chance of cold weather, be sure the car is ready.

And third, about you. Christmas is wonderful but wearing. Try to do your driving before it gets too late and avoid the hazards of fatigue.

Merry Christmas and a pleasant visit!

A great many men shiver in the cold just because they imagined they had the fire of genius.

Today nothing seems to succeed like the appearance of success.

What a man gets out of the world today depends largely on what he puts into it.

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 21st, 1958
9:00 a.m. — Morning Prayer
11:15 a.m. — Morning Worship
10:00 a.m. — Junior Church and Church School
7:00 p.m. — Junior Choir — White Gift Service
Children under 5 welcomed at all services

THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR
ANGLICAN
Rector: The Rev. H. B. Stokes, L. Th., S.T.B.
185 Jeffery St., phone 263

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21st, 1958
THE FOURTH 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.
7:00 p.m. — Candlelighting and Carol Service.
MID-WEEK CELEBRATIONS
Christmas Eve, December 24th — 11:30 p.m., Choral Eucharist.
Christmas Day, December 25th — 9:30 a.m., Holy Eucharist.
St. Stephen's Day, December 26th — 10:00 a.m., Holy Eucharist.
"O Come, Let Us Adore Him!
He is Christ, Our Lord!"

BAPTIST CHURCH
ACTON
Pastor
Rev. Gordon M. Holmes, B.A., B.Th.
115 Bower Avenue

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21st, 1958
9:45 a.m. — Sunday School.
11:00 a.m. — Hear the Angels Sing.
7:00 p.m. — Carol Service. Sermon — "Silent Nights."
A Cordial Welcome to All!

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA
KNOX CHURCH, ACTON
Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21st, 1958
9:45 a.m. — Church School.
11:00 a.m. — Christmas Worship. Cantata by choir. Sermon theme: "The Way of Condescending Love."
7:00 p.m. — Annual C.G.I.T. Vesper Service.

ACTON PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE
33 Churchill Road
P.A.O.C.
Rev. Kenneth J. Reid, Pastor
75 Cook St., phone 649-W

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21st, 1958
10:00 a.m. — Sunday School.
11:00 a.m. — Morning Worship.
7:30 p.m. — Evangelistic.
We will be praying for the sick in the service.
Monday, 7:30 p.m. — Annual Sunday School Christmas program.
Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. — Prayer and Bible Study.
Friday, 8 p.m. — Evangelistic Service with Evangelist Charles Penn.
A Warm Welcome Awaits You

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1938

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Dec. 22, 1938

A block of frame buildings on Mill St. originally owned by the Record Estate and erected about 70 years ago, was the scene of a blaze early Monday morning that threatened a good section of the business part of Acton and kept the fire brigade fighting it for four hours before it was completely subdued. Loss will be around $1100, partly covered by insurance.

The building where the blaze started, Dad's Hamburgers, was owned by Mr. C. O. Frank Rockwood. The Massey meat shop building was owned by Mr. L. Starkman and the barber shop property was owned by Mr. Thomas Morton. It is thought the blaze started from an overheated chimney pipe. Mr. Comer, the proprietor, had left the building only a short time before the blaze was discovered and he and others there at the time had noticed nothing amiss.

Two hundred Acton children were given a Christmas party on Saturday afternoon and the useful gifts of clothing were appreciated by parents as well as children. The event was a Christmas [illegible] given by the Beardmore and Co. staff.

The lane crew, that has been very intimate in numerous back yards about town, that [illegible] settled on a cut-out switch on the hydro lines and [illegible] section of the town without light or power until the lines were located.

The Young Ladies' Friendly Circle of the United church held a very enjoyable Christmas party at the home of LaVerne Smith on Monday evening. Games were conducted by Ruth Gibson and LaVern Smith. Dec. Wilson won the prize for the highest score for the evening, and Mrs. Bennett won low prize.

Many [illegible] spirit [illegible]

Well the big news [illegible] and weather permitting the Leafs [illegible] December 23. The arrangements are still holding water [illegible] at the arena and to bring fair progress. Success depends on the weather, though.

BACK IN 1908

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Dec. 17, 1908.

At the meeting of the Board of Education on Monday evening the contract for the very satisfactory heat [illegible] for the public and [illegible] school was only [illegible] of the board visited the school and without [illegible] the [illegible] to record the [illegible] the board [illegible] and every [illegible] was [illegible] and [illegible] was [illegible]

The concert [illegible] Wednesday evening [illegible] Wilson [illegible] the [illegible] was [illegible] and others [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] Mrs. A. [illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] Mr. A. G. T. [illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] the works.

At the [illegible] Education [illegible] Mr. H. P. M[illegible]

[illegible]

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

MEDICAL

DR. W. G. C. KENNEY
Physician and Surgeon
Office in Symon Block
44A Mill St. E., Acton
Office Phone 78
Residence 115 Church St. E.
Phone 159

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 670
Office Hours 6-8 p.m.
Afternoons by Appointment

REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE

F. L. WRIGHT
20 Wilbur St.
Acton, Ontario
Phone 95
Appraiser, Real Estate and Insurance

WM. R. BRACKEN
INSURANCE AGENCY
8 Mill Street
Phone 26 — Res. 555-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.
1.00 p.m.-5.00 p.m.
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 576
Office Hours: 8 p.m. - 9 p.m.
1 p.m. - 9 p.m. Saturdays
15 Cork St. E., Guelph
TA 4-2243
Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturdays 9 a.m. - 12 a.m.

HASTINGS & PAYNE
Barristers and Solicitors
Notaries Public
1A Mill St., Acton
Office Hours:
Mon. - Fri.: 10.00-11.45 a.m.,
1.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Sat.: 10.00 - 12.00 a.m.
Phone 991

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Rumley Shoemaker
Bruce E. S[illegible]
Phone [illegible]

CHIROPRACTOR

A. D. MOORE, D.C.
[illegible]
Mon. [illegible] Wed. [illegible] Sat. [illegible]

OPTICAL

T. E. L. BUCHNER, R.O.
Optometrist
43 Mill St. E. — Phone 219
Closed December 24
Open December 31

AUDITING - ACCOUNTING

LEVER & HOSKIN
Chartered Accountants
51 Main St. N., Brampton — Phone: GL 1-4824
212 King St. W., Toronto 1 — EM 4-9131

NEVILLE STOLLER & CO.
Accountants and Auditors
Trustees in Bankruptcy
3 Mill St., Acton (corner of Main)
Telephone 10
Head office 510 Bloor St. West, Toronto 1, B. 2-5669

EARL G. BLACK
B. Comm., R.I.A., C.A.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
Farmers Bldg., 183 Main St.
Milton, Ont.
TR 8-6542

TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

GRAY COACH LINES
COACHES LEAVE ACTON
Standard Time
Eastbound
6.33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol.); 8.58 a.m.; 11.33 a.m.; 2.08 p.m.; 3.08 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.; 2.57 p.m.; 5.27 p.m.; 7.27 p.m.; 9.12 p.m.; 11.33 p.m.; 1.12 a.m. (Fri., Sat., Sun. and Hol.).

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 9.52 a.m.; 6.23 p.m.; Daily Flyer at Georgetown 10.11 p.m.
Westbound
Daily 11.44 p.m.; Daily except Sunday, 6.30 a.m.; 4.30 p.m.; 7.45 p.m.; Saturday only 2.22 p.m.; Sunday only 9.05 a.m. (Flagstop); Sunday only Flyer at Georgetown 7.45 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. 6.15 p.m.