

# 100 Years to Remember

A hundred years is a long time. Plans to replace the original school now referred to as part of the Robert Little School got us browsing to find its age. And according to the best record available it was built, (the original part) in 1859 or 60. Two brick additions were made in 1892 and 1914.

The fire in 1956 naturally spelled doom for the building that has served the education needs of the town for the past 100 years. It was there when the access to the property was by a lane which ran past the house were "Sandy" McIsaac now resides over a plank bridge crossing the little creek, past the shingle mill and yard, up through a section of land that was added to the school property about 50 years ago and then with a turn at right angles entrance was made past the school pump into the grounds.

When Education Lane was opened Mr. Smith, who lived in what is now the former high school property, erected stately entrance gates and turn stiles at Main Street.

Everyone who has ever attended the old school undoubtedly has a share of memories from the years spent there. In 1900 a reunion was held for pupils of that school and turned out to be quite a successful event. In the morning the pupils strolled about the haunts of the old school days. In the afternoon the large group gathered at the school at the call of the old school bell. Impromptu speeches followed. A ceremony unveiled the memorial monument to Robert Little. The event continued from Friday through Saturday and Sunday.

Perhaps we're just wishful thinkers but it seems that right about now, in the warmer weather, would be a good time to gather all the former pupils that can be located and have a real old fashioned reunion before the old school goes its way. We'd like to see, that and it's just possible others would too. But it does take leadership and some willing volunteers. Any available?

## New Middle Class

Considered solely on the basis of annual income, the Canadian middle class is changing. Evidence of this comes from a government publication entitled "Taxation Statistics 1958," issued by the taxation division of the Department of National Revenue.

One of the tables in this useful book give a distribution of taxpayers by income classes for the taxation years 1941 to 1956. It shows that in the earlier year the largest group of taxpayers was composed of those earning from \$1,000 to \$2,000 a year. There were 368,867 in that group out of a total of 871,484 taxpayers. In 1956, the number of taxpayers was more than four times as large, at 3,908,176. The largest taxpaying group had shifted to those earning from \$3,000 to \$4,000 a year. They numbered 1,015,449, while the group below them, earning from \$2,000 to \$3,000 had 993,830 members.

In 1956, as in 1941, it was the middle and lower classes of taxpayers upon whom the receiver-general of Canada depended for

the bulk of his support. In spite of the steeply graduated income tax, which takes the biggest bite from the largest incomes, more than half of the income tax payable in 1956 came from incomes of \$6,000 or less a year. About one sixth of the grand total came from the class earning from \$3,000 to \$4,000.

It is possible, even probable, that these taxpayers do not realize their importance in the country's economy. Except for those who are self-employed, they never handle the millions that they contribute to Ottawa. They may not even realize that their earnings are actually as large as the figures show, for it is their take-home pay that matters in their personal financing. Their income taxes are almost as invisible to them as the sales and excise taxes that are hidden in the costs of everything they buy. They feel the cost of living, but they are not encouraged to relate it to governmental extravagance. The Printed Word.



"Before the Buds Break" — Photo by Esther Taylor

## Jim's JOTTINGS

BY JIM DILLS

● THERE ARE big winds and there are big winds, but that one on Sunday and Monday should take some kind of a record for the area. Garbage cans danced merry tunes, windows were blown in, hydro interruptions were prevalent, and driving was hazardous. March with all its fickleness has given us some frisky days interspersed with the very welcome sunshine.

● THINKING OF the problem hydro interruptions can create gives emphasis to our growing dependence on the medium. Houses can get pretty chilly when the automatic heating system fails to act without the power, and dinners can be pretty grim in their coldness without the application of the necessary heat. Lucky the house that still has some auxiliary heating. Even so, I replace as some help in times of power failure.

● EVER TRY molting butter with a canister? It's not too bad a job either. Tried it on Sunday when something or other required melted butter, and the hydro to do the job had been interrupted by high winds.

● IN TORONTO on Friday for some camera reports the family tried an "old" nest out. As a normal with children, silence is not always evident and a lady at one of a neighbouring table kept coming in with what looked like a little less than approval. Meal over and we prepared to depart, the youngest bounded down from his chair, straight up and poked up some matches the

lone diner had dropped. He won a warm smile and a pleasant greeting that I hadn't thought possible. Just goes to show appearance shouldn't be the only basis for conclusions.

● IF ANYTHING bugs me in the city driving it's those pedestrian walks. While watching for stop lights on corner posts, intermingled with neon store-front displays, you're supposed to watch the middle of the street for pedestrian crossing signs and see the curbs to determine if any pedestrians are at large. It's too much for me.

● HUNDREDS OF birdhouses will be set up in Trafalgar parks I learned recently. Parks Superintendent William Bateman obtained approval for the Scouts and Cubs in that area to make birdhouses and a Toronto firm donated the kits, 500 of them. The boys got the kits and the finished birdhouses will be returned for use in the parks. To my way of thinking that's a wonderful idea. Haven't heard of anyone making birdhouses for a long time.

● SPEAKING OF birds too, hundreds of pheasants in Essex County will be set up this spring thanks to 200 Boy Scouts of the county who marched through the ice covered fields and woods scattering feed for the birds.

● GETTING AROUND to thinking of spring and it might be a good idea for a tree planting time on even a level of the old Arbor Day custom. The town has a lot of new

streets where trees planted now would in later years add to the dignity, the appearance and the shadiness of the homes. Maybe a community wide observance of Arbor Day is possible with every citizen, or every family planting a tree. It could be a wonderful Chamber of Commerce project with the attendant publicity for the town. In past years Arbor Day went out years ago.

● THE ONE thing that hurts more than paying income tax is not having to pay an income tax.

● THE MEASURE of a man  
Not "How did he die?"  
But "How did he live?"  
Not "What did he gain?"  
But "What did he give?"  
These are the units  
To measure the worth  
Of a man, as a man,  
Regardless of birth.  
Not "What was his station?"  
But "Had he a heart?"  
And "How did he play  
His God-given part?"  
Was he ever ready  
With a word of good cheer  
To bring back a smile,  
To banish a tear?  
Not "What was his church?"  
Nor "What was his creed?"  
But "Had he befriended  
Those really in need?"  
Not "What did the sketch  
In the newspaper say?"  
But "How many were sorry  
When he passed away?"

## THIS SUNDAY'S CHURCH CALENDAR

<b>ACTON PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE</b> 33 Churchhill Road P. A. O. C. Rev. Kenneth J. Reid, Pastor 75 Cook St. Phone 649-W	<b>UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA</b> Acton, Ontario Rev. Gordon Adams, M.A., B.D. Minister Mr. George Elliott Organist and Choir Leader
<b>SUNDAY MARCH 22nd 1959</b> 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship 7:00 p.m. Evening 8:00 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study Thursday 8 p.m. Christ Ambassadors Friday 8 p.m. Christian Fellowship A Friendly Welcome to All	<b>SUNDAY MARCH 22nd 1959</b> 9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer 10:00 a.m. Junior Church and Church School 11:15 a.m. Morning Worship Children under 5 will be cared for at all services
<b>THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR ANGLICAN</b> Rector: The Rev. H. B. St. Croft 185 Jeffrey St. phone 265	<b>BAPTIST CHURCH ACTON</b> Rev. Gordon H. Holmes, B.A. B.Th. 115 Bowker Avenue
<b>SUNDAY MARCH 22nd 1959</b> PALM SUNDAY 8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 9:45 a.m. Church School 11:00 a.m. Beginners' Class 11:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist and the Blessing of Palms HOLY WEEK SERVICES Monday 21 March 1959 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist 8 p.m. Evening Service Tuesday 22 March 1959 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist 8 p.m. Evening Service Wednesday 23 March 1959 - The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 7 a.m. Holy Eucharist 8 p.m. Evening Service Thursday 24 March 1959 - Maundy Thursday 8 p.m. Holy Eucharist Friday 25 March 1959 - Good Friday 7 a.m. Holy Eucharist 8 p.m. Holy Story of the Cross Holy Saturday 26 March 1959 - 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist	<b>SUNDAY MARCH 22nd 1959</b> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist We will welcome you to the Acton United Church. Dr. Crossley Hunter, Toronto, will preach Sunday 8 p.m. Holy Eucharist in the United Church.
<b>PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA</b> <b>KNOX CHURCH, ACTON</b> Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D. <b>SUNDAY - MARCH 22nd, 1959</b> 9:45 a.m. - Church School 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship 7:00 p.m. - First Holy Week service, Acton United Church	

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Back in 1909 Back in 1939

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, March 11, 1909.

A gang of G.T.R. workmen is engaged in putting additional hoops on the 100,000 gallon tank at the G.T.R. depot and strengthening the big structure. It will also be repainted.

The proposal for the erection of a \$4,000 rink here this coming summer has been cordially received. Nearly the whole amount of stock every reason to believe that next winter will see a commodious and well appointed rink, complete with perhaps accommodation for both skaters and curlers.

A case of alleged housebreaking upon information laid by E. Dynes and John Currie against John Watson, fifth line, Esquimaux, was heard by Reeve Swackhamer and magistrate A. P. Moore on Monday afternoon. The evidence showed that the prosecutors were not legally tenured at the time and the alleged housebreaker was really an eviction. The case was therefore dismissed.

On Monday morning as Walter Cutting was covering his meat route, his horse became frightened on Church St. while he was making his milk delivery and ran away. He tore up the street with the milk cans rattling and when near the corner of Frederick St. the rig collided with Grace's butcher cart. The impact locked the wheels and stripped the harness completely off the butcher's horse. Joe Bye, the delivery boy, ran after his horse at top speed, with a pound of steak he had taken from the cart in his hand. The horses were caught a short distance away. They suffered less injury than their harness and rigs.

Mrs. A. T. Brown had the misfortune to fall from a step ladder which slipped on the linoleum in the kitchen last Thursday morning. She fell on her back across a chair and while no bones were broken, she was painfully bruised. She is now able to be about again.

A checker match in which a good deal of interest was taken was played by 24 crack players in Matthew's Hall Tuesday evening. Geo. Havill was official scorer.

The Dublin Literary Society met at the school last Friday with the president, Mr. Steele, in the chair. After the usual opening, the minutes were read and business discussed. The following program was presented: a quiz contest, a piano solo by Margaret Sumerville, reading by Doreen Steele, solo by Chas. Cutler, reading by Alma Rose, St. Patrick's dialogue by school children, cowboy singing by Annie Kelly and Annie Clark.

The days of the splashing motor cars are here. Careful driving will keep everyone in better humor.

The third group of the Women's Institute held a euchre at the home of Mrs. J. White Tuesday. Winners included Mrs. R. L. Davidson, Mrs. A. H. Bishop, Mrs. E. F. Collier and Mrs. W. J. Reid.

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