

# Editorial Page

## What Lies Ahead?

It is encouraging to see that the Acton Public Utilities Commission is wondering about its future.

As the result of a municipal vote last December, the Public Utilities Commission was voted out of business at the end of this December.

The hydro section of the Commission will revert to a Hydro Electric Commission and the sewerage and waterworks sections will come under council jurisdiction.

What co-ordination or supervision that will be established to achieve the benefits of this change is as yet unknown.

With a superintendent of waterworks

and a superintendent of the sewerage system the only new position that might be possible is a town manager. While we have heard the usual rumors of this move there has been no indication of it from the council table.

With the town nearing its final quarter the citizens as well as the present P.U.C. should be advised of the plan. If there is no plan Acton citizens bought a "pig in a poke" last December.

Like most citizens we would be interested in knowing council's plans for the co-ordination of its works, sewerage and waterworks departments.

## A Closer Link

Thousands of Halton pupils went back to school on Tuesday. It's an annual event but this year its significance is impressed by the increasing concern that is evident in our educational system.

It is as complex a problem as the number of individuals it affects. It is harassed by the pressures of sputniks and flights to outer space. It is tremendously important because the developments of this generation and the achievements of the next will be in the hands of those who are educated today.

Our system of education has been in transition for centuries. Keeping pace with today's swelling population is a formidable task in itself but the addition of new facilities does not automatically provide the education.

Today we have been impressed with the ring of "easy terms" with the sugar coating and unfortunately this has, to a certain extent, found its way into our methods of obtaining education. But this is not the only problem.

It is difficult to generalize without error but there is, it seems, a strong need for a more intimate relationship between the parent-teacher-pupil chain. Here, indeed, the chain is only as strong as its weakest link.

A suitable home atmosphere for study is one requisite but besides that there is a strong need for encouragement that the pupil will seek new achievements and not be content with the "average" or the "pass".

## A Place for Dreamers

In this great big country of Canada there should be ample room to stretch things out so that towns don't develop as cramped together and their expansion isn't similarly cramped into as little space as possible.

There isn't any doubt that this is one of the great challenges for local planning boards since certain economic factors are bound to play a part.

Existing municipal services offer many incentives to settle in a minimum number of houses. Of course expenses of the town and county are rising faster since every successive attempt to get a road or parkway built is an added expense. Then there are the various organizations or agencies and the stimulation the prosperity of the country.

As settlers we are being encouraged to live in towns as a community degree and towns will prove the test.

A few months ago a 765-foot bridge was opened across the Niagara River providing a better connection with the United States.

leading off it, east 96 feet wide. This plan, which would have given Toronto streets as wide as those enjoyed by most American towns, disappeared to be replaced by a dim rectangular cluttering. It was considered too ambitious.

In 1852, a plan was made for a "Road or Esplanade 105 feet wide, along Toronto's harbor front." The design seems too ornate to be carried across the face of the earth.

In these days of planning, local music societies appear to be caught in the throes of dilemma. For surely they must constantly face whether to go on holding on to small and the rest of the town to begin anything.

Up to now they have often opened the gate of opportunity to us and their time is taken up in the care of enforcement of regulations. They have no room there in time for studying the ergonomic trend of a community, a study in problems of its place for future development.

These should be some dreams for local planning boards.

## Only Leading Way

Somewhere it used to be news when a Prime Minister started a party without serving as PM. But after Mr. Dietrichson, who heads the Canadian Government, did this recently, it made headlines in Canadian papers. In fact, he has done it twice. Mr. Dietrichson is reliably reported as hoping to set a style for official entertaining.

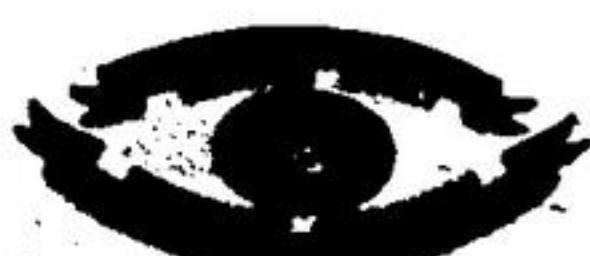
—Gordon L. Munro

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## THE GOOD OLD DAYS

### Back in 1939

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Sept. 14, 1939.

Acton Intermediates were ousted from ball for this season when the Galt Pickards whipped them 10-2 in the final game of the playoffs last Saturday. Norm Morton started on the mound for Acton and pitched good ball but the fielding behind him was erratic.

Canada has joined the British Empire and entered the second world war with only three dissenting votes out of 245 votes at Parliament this week. The Duke of Devonshire Chapter and Lakewood Chapters of the L.O.D.E. have sent out an appeal for new blankets and clothes or money to buy same for children age 8-14 years of age who have been evacuated from their homes in Great Britain.

The fine large barn of Mrs. Ernest Robson, on the highway west of Rockwood, was completely destroyed by fire on Friday night. The reflection and blaze could be seen for miles and attracted many from here. The season's crop and live stock were destroyed making the loss a serious one.

Acton council passed a by-law regulating the store closing hours for Acton merchants which will become effective on first of the month. In portions of the by-law reads:

"That all stores in Acton will close Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evening at seven o'clock but are allowed to remain open until 10 p.m. on Friday."

Holidaymakers were again well to the fore in inter-club contests held at Brampton Fair and the Canadian National Exhibition. At the former show which was open to several countries, Huron girls repeated their triumphs of a year ago, winning first prize in the International competition. The Huron troupe also won several contests at the Canadian National Exhibition.

Rev. E. A. Brooks, Mrs. R. P. Webster and Mrs. George Hensler were members of the local club at the Acton Intermediates' Ball on Saturday evening. The girls' team placed third in the girls' 16-year-old, women's first and in the Intermediate competition. The Huron troupe also won several contests at the Canadian National Exhibition.

Mr. James R. Anderson has purchased from Mr. Henry Arnold his local wood business and takes immediate possession. Mr. Anderson also takes over the street sprinkler business, which Mr. Anderson has conducted for the past two years, at the end of the season.

The waters of Fairy Lake are lower than they have been for years. The present time would be an excellent one to remove or cut off many of the stumps which interfere with safe and comfortable boating in many sections of the lake. A movement might be inaugurated for this purpose by the Acton Aquatic Club. It would receive generous support from a number of citizens and the result would be gratifying.

On Monday afternoon as Morris Cohn, son of Mr. and Mrs. I. Cohn, a Russian Jew, living on Church Street, was playing with companions after school, he ran into the yard of Mrs. Frank Sennser, an Austrian, for a stick, which he alleged Mrs. Sennser's son had taken away from him. The woman ran out and grasped the lad, hurling him against a tree with the result that his nose was broken in the fall.

Skip Gunter Gould and his players brought honors to town last Thursday evening when they defeated all the out-of-town teams in the annual boating tournament to win the Sun Trophy Cup. Toward the close of the day's play the only two teams left were the Acton entry and the experienced and former champion girls' team from Brampton. All the skills of the game were displayed by all players as they tried valiantly to win the coveted award. Skip Gould had his players facing the boats perfectly and the sun shone down to close it was a glorious day. Acton citizens were again well to the fore in inter-club contests held at the Sun Trophy Cup. Toward the close of the day's play the only two teams left were the Acton entry and the experienced and former champion girls' team from Brampton. All the skills of the game were displayed by all players as they tried valiantly to win the coveted award. 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