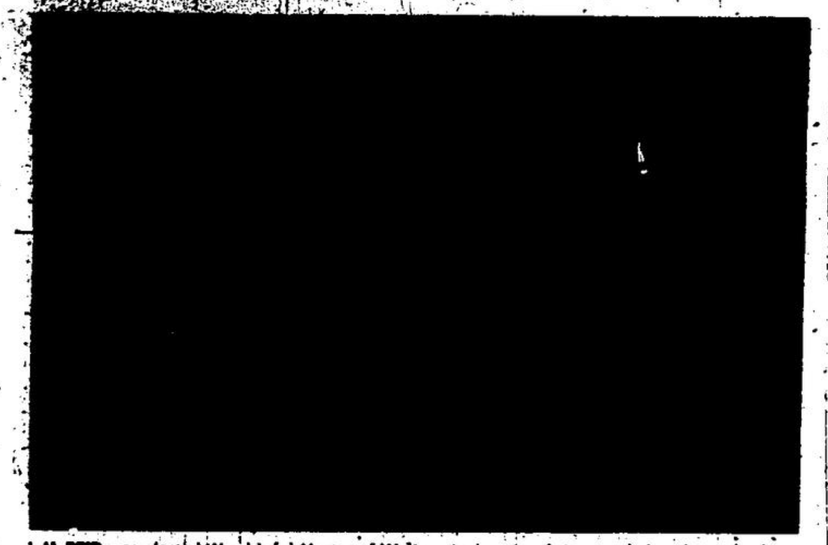

J. H. REID was elected Worshipful Master of Walker Lodge in Acton and is pictured above surrounded by other lodge officials as he is congratulated. Shown left to right are, immediate past master L. McKersie, Mr. Reid, Very Worshipful Brother H. Ritchie and Worshipful Brother S. Snow. Installation of the new officers took place in the lodge Monday evening.

CHURCHILL

Carols, Recitations, Plays At Sunday School Concert

The Sunday School concert was held on Wednesday evening at the church.

Mr. Smith Griffin Jr. was chairman for the program which included carol singing, recitations, plays and music.

Mr. Murray McBride showed a film on the work of the Eskimo which was very interesting.

Santa arrived to give out the gifts and candy.

Church Postponed

Church was postponed on Sunday due to the icy roads.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ford and family spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham at Schomberg.

Friends are sorry to hear that Mr. Peter Hilz is in the Milton Hospital. They wish him a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Denny and family spent Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Leslie at Guelph.

Mr. Russell Book of Detroit spent the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Thompson.

AVOID POSSIBILITY

Everyone tries to avoid accidents. But too often, drivers try to avoid an accident only when it is imminent, and unavoidable. The good driver aims to avoid the possibility of an accident before it gets started.

It's time enough to say it when you know it to be true.

We take great pleasure in wishing all our friends and patrons a Happy New Year

ACTON BILLIARDS

EVERTON

Many Homes Open Doors To Christmas Visitors

many homes open doors to christ-

T. D. McCutcheon, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Jestin and Bobby spent Christmas day with Mr. and Mrs. Robert McCutcheon and Dianne, Kitchener.

Mrs. John Alton and Miss Jennie Tovell spent Christmas day with Mr. and Mrs. Albert Alton, Ian and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Patten and family, Guelph.

Christmas visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fountain and family were Mr. and Mrs. James Fountain and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Fountain and family, Guelph and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Fountain of Kentucky.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cutting spent Christmas day with Mr. and Mrs. Don Dolson near Burlington.

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Lillie and son, Guelph visited on Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Wes Lillie and Cliff.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Jestin, Patsy and Nancy visited Christmas day with Mr. and Mrs. Max Milne, Rockwood.

Mrs. Cutting of Winona is visiting her son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Cutting and Raymond.

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Peavoy spent Christmas day with Mr. and Mrs. Archie Bagg, Guelph.

Christmas day visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hortop, Elizabeth and Nancy were Mr. and Mrs. Bert Palframan, Mrs. W. H. Hortop and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hortop of Rockwood.

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Peavoy spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Rae West and Mrs. Hazel West, Acton.

Miss Mary Sunter spent Christmas with her mother and sister Betty, Speedside.

Miss Jean Dunbar, Winnipeg is visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hortop and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Edwards, visited on Sunday with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ware.

Mr. and Mrs. Omar Menard spent Christmas with relatives in Toronto.

On Sick List

Mr. Alf Talbot who spent a few days in hospital is staying at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hindley.

Friends of Omar Parker were sorry to hear he underwent surgery in Guelph General Hospital recently. All wish him a speedy recovery.

IT'S A FACT

Stopping distances are more than twice as long when the temperature is near the melting point than when it gets down around zero. So the driver starts out early in the morning, when it's quite cold, and finds traction and stopping ability quite good, must remember that as the temperature rises later in the day, the ice will become far more treacherous.

Your correspondent wishes the editor staff and all readers of the Acton Free Press a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Two Specials

Next issue—regular size and regular day.

Yes, next week this newspaper will revert to its original eight column format and will be published Thursday afternoon. This week's and last week's tabloid issue were special cases for the Yuletide season. But next week, deadlines, appearance and time of publishing will be normal.

Super Portable Typewriter

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YOU get the $23.95 Gift FREE, too! You'll love the SUPER with its big machine features—88 character keyboard, key-set tabulator, page gage for bottom margins, choice of 5 colors. AN AMAZING value!

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DILLS STATIONERY

56 MILL ST. PHONE 603

Acton's First Complete Stationery & Office Supply Store

—Staff Photo

COMPLETELY DESTROYED was the back kitchen during an early morning fire today at the rural home of Mr. and Mrs. Clement Foster near Limehouse. Three occupants of the house escaped with only scanty clothing and were taken to a neighbor's home. Mr. Foster received medical attention when overcome by smoke. Acton firemen saved the remainder of the house.

Sugar and Spice . . .

BY BILL SMILEY

Last week I had to make a speech at a banquet. Now, for a politician or a preacher, a tycoon or a teacher, or even a plain ordinary bee esser, there's nothing more pleasant than to be invited to address a gathering. It's second nature to them. They take to it like a pig takes to swill.

But for hundreds of thousands of simple, inhibited Canadians like me, it's about as simple as swimming Lake Superior in your long underwear.

When we stand up, rubbery-legged, hands sweating, white as death, and face all those people looking at us expectantly, it's nothing short of a case for the S.P.C.A.

Our minds go as blank as a suddenly-drawn window blind. Our tongues cleave to the roofs of our bone-dry mouths as tightly as ever Cleopatra clove to Mark Antony. Our Adam's apples become even as pomegranates. Our little sheaf of notes, over which we labored so hard, flutters like a bride's bouquet.

It wouldn't be so bad if people who invited you to be guest speaker gave you a topic. But they won't do it. They're too polite. When they ask you to volunteer for the Torture of the Seven Deaths, they say: "Why, anything at all. I'm sure that anything you give us will be worthwhile."

Which is very unfair, for us who become moronic when confronted by an audience. If somebody asked me to give an address on the Roman Empire, or the Lost Cities of the Amazon, or the Ancient Chaldees, I'd be prepared to do some research and make a stab at a speech, supported by notes, carrying heads, sub-heads, shrunken heads and dry little jokes that fitted in here and there. Nothing to it.

But I went into this one cold. I was shaving away at my speech, however, and had worked out rather a neat turn of phrase or two, when it suddenly struck me, with the stifling pain of a blow in the throat, that I had no jokes.

Now, as everybody knows, an after dinner speaker without jokes is about as much use as a wagon wheel without spokes. He may have natural eloquence, a good topic, a fine appearance and a commanding manner. But without jokes confronted by 200 people who have just stuffed themselves with turkey, in a warm hall, he simply can't get through. He might as well be talking to a couple of hundred seals who have just cleaned up a ton of fish.

And the coward who knows this, however poor a speaker he is, is always welcome as a speaker, because he has a collection of hoary stories. All he has to do to make a wonderful impression is tell the audience how delighted he is to be there, and tell a joke; mention vaguely the purpose of the gathering, if he knows it, and relate an anecdote; thank the ladies at some length for the splendid dinner, and regale his listeners with a funny story; tell those present they are the salt of the earth and it is an honor to be among them, and wind up with a final joke. They'll go home claiming that he was the best speaker they'd heard in a coon's age.

As I am a coward, it produced a special terror in me when I realized that I didn't know a single funny story. When I was a young rip of a bachelor, I had quite a fund of them. But when I got married, I discovered that women, at least the one I got, have no sense of humor.

When we were first married, I'd come home with some real rib splitters, and try to share them with her, but by the time I was finished trying to explain them, I'd be roaring and she'd be crying, so I gave up.

The very last time I tried it was a couple of years ago. I heard this story and thought it would knock even the Old Girl out. You all know it. The two keen golfers on the ninth tee, ready to drive, when the funeral cortege came along the road bordering the golf club. One golfer took off his cap and stood with bowed head until the procession had passed. His friend asked the reason for the reverent gesture. "Least I could do," he said, when he had chanted the ball. "I was married to her for over thirty years."

The tears were running down my cheeks as I told this one to my wife. She looked at me as though I needed a shave, then asked, rather crossly, "Why wasn't he at the funeral?" Since then, I haven't even bothered to listen to jokes.

So, to cut a long story short, I had to make my speech without any jokes. And boy, it was dead. In fact, it was as dead as the wife of the Englishman. You know the one. Two Englishmen met in their club. "Sorry to hear you buried your wife old chap," said one. Replied the other: "Had to, old boy. Dead, you know."

LIFEBELT HANDY

You can contain a device that might avert tragedy on the lake. The space where can be [illegible] with water as an emergency [illegible]. As many as five adults can [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible]

Pre-New Year Dance Held by Hi-Y Club

A pre-New Years dance was held by the Acton Hi-Y Club in the YMCA on Tuesday evening when about 40 members and friends were present. Fancy hats and noise makers made the occasion more jolly for the dancers as they enjoyed the music from the records.

During the dancing the boys and girls enjoyed refreshments from the coke bar as soft drinks and cookies were served.

ENGAGEMENT

The engagement is announced between Herbert Ian Bowen, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Saravanamuttoo of Broadstairs, Kent, England, formerly of Glasgow, Scotland, and Joan Daliziel, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Buckner, Wellington St., Acton, Ontario. The marriage to take place in May.

NEW FACE NOW

Perhaps you notice a new face in the Free Press this week.

The new face is actually a new type face designed to make the reading of your weekly paper easier. The face is known as Aster and is 1/72nd of an inch larger than the type formerly used for setting the articles.

It will be cast on the same size line and each line will still accommodate almost exactly the same number of letters as the former face.

It is hoped readers will find the new size letters more easily read in their issue of the weekly paper.

This is the type face that has been in use for the past 12 years. Newer designs and reader surveys have indicated a trend to larger types and this is evidenced in the new face adopted by this weekly. It is a move in keeping with the progress maintained by the publishers.

Robt. R. Hamilton
Fred A. Hoffman
OPTOMETRISTS
(Formerly E. P. Head)
PHONE GUELPH TA 4-2071
58 St. George's Square

Here comes 1960! And here's hoping it rings in a full measure of good luck, health and happiness for you and yours.

GRANT'S MOTORS
AND RADIATOR REPAIR SHOP

Greetings
AND BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR
Benson's Shoes
THE FRIENDLY STORE

As we say "good by" to the old year and "hello" to the new, it gives us great pleasure to extend to you a world of good wishes for 1960.

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