

# Editorial Page

## Questions Please

The success, interest and informative conclusions that resulted recently at the Chamber of Commerce Civic Night, when questions were asked has led us to try the same thing on a broader scale.

If you have reasonable general interest questions on Acton, its industry, its administration, or its history or statistics we'll make an honest effort to answer them or get the answer.

None of us knows everything about the town but all of us wonder, at one time or another, about something that is planned, something that has happened or some unresolved problem.

When no answer is immediately available there is often speculation and that is

where rumor starts. Baseless rumor is a damaging thing to any town.

We can't guarantee to answer everything. Not even Solomon would be that foolish but we will do our best to locate the individual who is best able to answer it. Some questions may take longer than others too.

Incidentally don't let this replace letters to the editor on current subjects. We would still like you to submit the questions in writing and perhaps if we can't find an answer the item can be carried as a letter and the answer sought further afield.

Please keep the questions of general interest, avoid personalities and submit them in writing.

We'll do our best from there.

## Inadequate Source

Municipalities were advised to make a "conscientious examination" of all phases of their expenditures by Provincial Treasurer James N. Allan in his budget speech.

That's just what most municipalities including this one, are doing right about now. What they're seeing is nothing new. It's a tale of climbing costs and increasing requests for new and better services.

In the last year or two the annual increase in the budgets of all Ontario municipalities and school boards, exclusive of capital outlays, has totalled \$100,000,000.

There is no doubt that provincial grants are increasing at fantastic rates. Unconditional grants to Ontario municipalities next year will total \$26,700,000—an increase of \$2,700,000 over the estimated payment of \$24,000,000 in 1959-60.

Municipalities have been operating within limits dictated by inadequate revenue resources. It has been possible to keep up with increasing operating and administrative costs but the high volume of capital borrowing with increasing debenture payments creates difficulties. A large portion of it, too, has been works deferred from the depression and war years. No municipality has been able to catch up with the full backlog of public works.

The old tale of 'easy payments' being the hardest kind to make is as applicable in municipal debentures as in household credit buying. No one's income is more limited than a municipality's and as long as a municipality must meet the climbing cost of education and capital works, a tax on real estate will be an inadequate source.

## Towards the Future

One modern paradox is that some of the men who are engaged in the research that makes nuclear war possible are also the least desirous of seeing it happen. Beyond their ordinary humane feelings, reinforced by their knowledge of the horrors that would follow attacks with A or H bombs, they have gained some insight into the benefits that humanity may expect from research and new inventions if it refrains from war. The scientist would live to be around to enjoy these benefits if they become available.

One nuclear physicist, Dr. Howard A. Wilcox of the U.S. Department of Defense, recently gave the American Astronautical Society a picture of some of the developments he expects to come about in the next years. These include development of unlimited space through extraction of energy from the heavy isotopes of hydrogen and uranium from great masses of the sun's power and stored energy.

Dr. Wilcox also foresaw rapid, economical transportation and believed that this would help to change world patterns of civilization, breaking down barriers between nations by promotion of better understanding. He also believed that the big city, "that curse of modern civilization," would disappear. The present trend does seem to be in the opposite direction, but with unlimited power and cheap, rapid transportation, some of the causes for the present growth of cities would be removed.

Another promise of the future that Dr. Wilcox announced was the invention of pills to counteract aging, prevent the growth of hair on the male chin and insure its growth on the bald scalp. This promise, if kept, might in itself be a good reason for avoidance of nuclear war. It should particularly appeal to Mr. Khrushchev.

## Arranging A Meeting

The hours that are spent in the countless meetings that are staged has never been estimated. Arranging a fair share of them is part of our business as reporting the news. The difference between meetings, however, is quite evident.

So many meetings lack any planning that the time wasted in them is as pathetic as the time wasted in them. Any person who acts as chairman has a responsibility to those he summons to meet, to have an adequate plan and purpose.

A recent publication carried the following suggestions which we can commend.

1. Meetings without purpose are wasted efforts.

2. There should be a worthwhile reason and ample preparation before a meeting is called.

3. The meeting place should be centrally located. It should be held at a place adapted to the purpose, cool or warm according to the season and one that is quiet and free from interruption.

4. Attendance is a prerequisite to successful meetings. To insure good attendance it is important that everyone expected or desired to attend be notified sufficiently in advance regarding all details.

5. Physical arrangements are another important contributing factor to the success of the meeting. If these have been attended to with care, the participants will be relieved of particular annoyances and distractions which interfere with their giving full attention to the deliberations. The chairman who thoughtfully provides for the comfort and convenience of those who participate in his meeting does an effective piece of work.

The following points may be considered in planning the seating arrangements:

a. The chairs should be as comfortable as possible, preferably with full or half arms. Whenever possible avoid uncomfortable folding chairs.

b. For large meetings, seating capacity should be ample. For small groups it is better to have a few chairs, with others readily available, than to have too many set up.

c. When a meal is served to a large group, it is more informal, to have tables of four or eight than to have a crowded banquet arrangement, which may be necessary if space is to be considered.

One of the other points omitted seems to be the need to start a meeting on time and being on time for the meeting.

Good meetings can be one of the most interesting and productive arrangements. Poorly organized meetings are, at best, a waste of time and effort.



—Photo by Zather Taylor

## "Can Spring Be Far"

## Sugar and Spice...

BY BILL SMILEY

Every St. Patrick's Day, I try to write a column about the Irish. And every year, I give it up as a bad job. What can you say about the Irish, good or bad, that they have not already said about themselves, being the greatest talkers and writers on the face of the earth?

About ninety-four per cent. of this talking and writing is pure Irish blather, but the remainder is as fine and true as anything that has come from tongue or pen.

I'm no authority on the Irish, and I promise that anyone who finds a single "begorrah" in this column may clobber me with a leprechaun. But it behooves me, as a student of the highways and byways, the odds and sods, to peer through the fog and squelch through the bog, in an honest effort to find the real essence of the Irish.

Fortunately for the cause of pure research, there are hordes

of genuine authorities on Ireland and the Irish. They are all Irishmen, of course. No nation on earth has found itself so fascinating as the Irish. No people has ever examined itself with such untinged delight, such hopeless disgust.

Most of the confusion about the Irish must rest with their writers. The brooding, turbulent, hilarious, soaring language of their poets, story-tellers and dramatists has tumbled into our ken an Irishman who is half-man, half-myth, half-clown, half-hero.

If we listed all the fine things the Irish have to say about themselves, we'd have them down as: loyal to the death; witty as all hell; fun-loving; handsome; deeply religious; sensitive; and with a fine disdain for the material things of life, to mention only a few self-bestowed virtues.

And if we listed all the sorry things Irishmen call themselves,

we'd put down: cowardly; treacherous; simple-minded; morose; ugly as sin; deeply profane; coarse as crows; and with a shrewd eye for a shilling, to name but a few self-bestowed vices.

This is to say that the Irish are just like everybody else. Which, of course, is ridiculous, and any Irishman worth his weight in boiled potatoes will attack this slander at the drop of a crock.

There's one thing about the Irish, for example, that stands out like the head on a draught of Guinness. Aside, of course, from the fact that they're bad-tempered, garrulous, inconsistent, self-pitying, lyrical, humorous, warm-hearted and entirely charming.

And that one thing is the memory of them. They have a memory that would make a self-respecting elephant wind his trunk around his left ear in an ecstasy of embarrassment. The Irish have never forgotten anything, which is at once their curse and their glory.

An Irishman just one jump out of the bog will remind you with some disdain that they're emerald isle was a centre of learning, a cultured, Christian country, when the British were just climbing out of their conacles and wiping the snot off their faces. And good for him. But the same fellow will tell you the reason he hates the English is because of the rough treatment his folk got from Cromwell. To hear him tell it, you'd think it had been last Halloween, not 300 years ago.

Another thing, you'll notice about the Irish is their immense self-satisfaction. Who else would excuse the possession of a foul temper by declaring proudly, "I guess it's the Irish in me?"

One more national trait is their glee in throwing cold water. They don't really mean it. But show an Irishman a silver lining and he'll show you a black cloud.

However, it takes all kinds to make a world and some of my best friends are Irish, but how would you like your sister to marry one? Well, my sister's brother married one, and I tell you, boys, you never know whether it's a kiss or a kick you'll be getting.

## STAMP NEWS

For the first time this year the boxes of the Eagle Stamp Club got under way on March 11. We started as usual with stamp news and the distributing of ordered stamps. After we got into the main part of trading stamps and putting stamps in our albums.

There is a full invitation to any girl or boy who is interested in the hobby of stamp collecting to come to Knox Church on any night there is a meeting. The meeting is on Friday night from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. The next meeting is on March 25.

## ...Dodging 'Round the District

BY ROY DOWNS

TALKING BACK — So, Japanese manufacturing experts are studying possibilities of establishing factories in Canada's Prairie Provinces, a recent press report explains. This, believe it or not, is very good news. It means the Japanese manufacturers will have to pay Canadian labor prices, instead of the average 15 cents an hour now paid in Japan; they will also have to pay Canadian taxes, instead of receiving their present tax reduction encouragement by the government. It means our Canadian firms will again be able to compete fairly with imported products. We're betting the Japanese stay in Japan!

Service Road Name? BURLINGTON—A man whose home faces the Queen Elizabeth Highway service road wants an address. Applying for his 1960 driver's licence, the Department of Transport wouldn't accept Queen Elizabeth Way as an address. The planning board has been asked to find the man a suitable street name.

Press Honors the Jellicks OAKVILLE—Newspapermen like to write about themselves and the latest "gimmick" was the press party given for Maria and Otto Jellicek, Bronie's famed figure skating duo. Newsmen and broad casters from the lakeshore area presented the pair with a scroll to honor their second place win in the world's pairs figure skating championships, and fourth in the Olympics.

\$225,000 for Arena STREETSVILLE—A fund raising campaign is planned for the Streetsville Community Centre arena project and the motto is "it can be done." They want to raise close to \$225,000 for the building. Council demanded a written apology after a woman charged, during a Municipal Board hearing on a new shopping centre for the village, that four of the councillors had interests in the proposed plaza.

Another New Industry BRAMPTON—A new industry, Messer Industrial Ltd., will be employing 150 people in a new plant by next fall. It was announced last week. The plant is a subsidiary of C.I.L. and will produce jobs there.

Horses for Mounties ORANGEVILLE—Some of those smart black horses the RCMP ride have been coming from an Orangeville farm owned by Walker Montgomery. Since 1942, Mr. Montgomery has sold his best mounts to the Mounties, but sales have fallen off recently as the RCMP are now breeding their own steeds. The lead pair of the Mounties' horses used in the 1953 Coronation parade in London, England came from the Montgomery farm. One of those horses, "Bob," has been pictured on postcards, C.P.R. dining room menus, and the cover of the Royal Winter Fair program.

Lots of Land Open GEORGETOWN—The availability of 294 building lots and 60 vacant homes in the Delrex area figured in council's refusal to release more residential building land to the developer. A return to the ward system of elections passed by a 54 majority at council last week over the objections of councillor Fred Harrison, who said council would get an "our end needs this" attitude.

Fights Trafalgar Hall TRAFALGAR—Former councillor Larry Comd has taken up an anti-hall campaign to fight council's decision to build a new municipal centre, rumored to cost \$400,000. The aggressive Southwest Trafalgar Ratepayers Association has decided the plans, under the leadership of the man who was instrumental in stalling the construction for the past three years.

# THE GOOD OLD DAYS

## BACK IN 1940

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, March 21, 1940.

The shoe store property on Mill Street owned by Messrs. William and John Kenney has been sold this week to Mr. E. Braida. Just a little over a year ago, Mr. Braida opened a shoe business in this building and under the capable management of Mr. F. M. McDonald, the business has made steady progress.

Acton Tanners lost the group hockey championship by just two goals last Saturday when they went down to defeat at the hands of the Waterloo club in Kitchener arena by the score of 5-4. Woods played an excellent game in the nets for Acton but the consistent pressure put on by the forwards for Waterloo wore him down after continual shots on the goal.

The Acton team poured shot after shot at Dunbrook tending goal for Waterloo but failed to flick the red light on many occasions. The local team went down fighting and certainly put all the drive necessary into the game, but fell two goals short of the win.

Gordon Lawson, eight-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. F. Lawson, Acton, had the misfortune to break his leg this week while playing at school. The youngster was treated by a local doctor and taken to the hospital, where a cast was put on his leg. He is up and around but has not returned to school yet.

Acton Fire Brigade answered the alarm this morning when a chimney fire broke out at the Bell Block building in the apartment where Mr. and Mrs. Ted Clifford live. Damage was slight and the firemen had the blaze extinguished in a short time after arriving.

A pageant under the direction of Mrs. J. C. Matthews provided plenty of entertainment at the United Church service last Sunday evening. The Sunday School children all took their parts well and the program was much enjoyed by the audience.

Rural League hockey would itself up in Acton Tuesday evening and the National Mountain were crowned the undefeated champions when they defeated the Georgetown Power in the last game. The N.M. Mountain play was presented in the form of the winning team at the conclusion of the game.

## BACK IN 1910

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, March 24, 1910.

The home of Mr. David Williamson, Guelph Street, was en fête yesterday in honor of the marriage of Miss Mabelle, the youngest daughter of the home to Mr. Herbert Roy Wansbrough, son of Mr. William Wansbrough, Erin Township. Rev. Geo. W. Barker of Woodstock, was the officiating minister and was assisted by Rev. J. Cooper Antliff, M.A., D.D. The couple took a brief honeymoon tour to Toronto and will reside on the farm, in Eramosa Township near Crewson Corners.

A special meeting of the Board of Health was held on Monday to consider a complaint against Thomas Workman, Willow Street, for maintaining a nuisance in connection with his stable. The Board passed a resolution instructing the Medical Health Officer and Sanitary Inspector to make an inspection of the premises and if necessary to take action to have the nuisance abated.

At a meeting of Exequing Board of Health last week it was decided to take action against the Acton tanneries and the Georgetown Coating Mills for the pollution of streams in the area.

Mr. Neil Gillies has sold his noted Clydesdale stallion, King Edward, to Mr. Joseph A. Arthurs of Exequing. Mr. Gillies received \$1000 for the fine animal. This price is believed to be the highest price paid to date for any horse in Halton County.

During council Tuesday evening the members were informed by the electrician that the power plant was loaded to capacity and no more applications for lights to be installed could be handled. The council agreed to put a stop to any further installations until something could be done to relieve the situation. It was also decided that shade trees had been planted on each side of the street from the line of the electric wires. The electrician was instructed to adopt a program whereby all sides of the street would be planted.

The Sons of Scotland at Home held their own ball at the Grand Hotel and was attended by many guests and the Scottish dancing the Misses Annie Ross and the Misses Phyllis and the Misses Mary Ross. The dancing was in charge with the Misses Mary Ross and the Misses Phyllis and the Misses Mary Ross.

# PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

MEDICAL	FUNERAL DIRECTORIES
<b>DR. W. G. C. KENNEY</b> Physician and Surgeon Office: 205 St. George St. E. 434 M. St. E. Acton Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Residence: 123 Church St. E. Phone 150	 Phone 600 night or day Bruce E. Shoemaker Mgr.
<b>DR. D. A. GARRETT</b> Physician and Surgeon Corner of Willow and River Sts. Entrance River St. Acton, Ont. Phone 258	<b>CHIROPRACTOR</b>  <b>A. D. MOORE D.C.</b> Palmer Specific Chiropractor 17 M.J. Street Phone 40 or 66 Office Hours: Sat 2 - 5 Wed 2 - 5
<b>DR. ROBERT U. BUCKNER</b> Physician and Surgeon 55 Wellington St. Acton, Ont. Phone 678 Office Hours: 6:30 p.m. Afternoons by Appointment	<b>OPTICAL AND HEARING AIDS</b>  <b>E. L. BUCHNER, R.O.</b> Optometrist and Hearing Aids 44 M.J. St. E. Phone 113 Office Hours Wednesdays only 10-6:00 p.m. Evenings by appointment House calls for invalids
<b>F. L. WRIGHT</b> 20 W. 4th St. Acton, Ontario Phone 35 Appraiser, Real Estate and Insurance	<b>ROBERT R. HAMILTON</b> Optometrist Eye Examined Hearing Aid Service 151 Guelph St., Georgetown, Ont. For appointment please phone: TR 7-8711
<b>DENTAL</b>  <b>DR. H. LEIB</b> Dental Surgeon Office: Corner Mill and Frederick Street Office Hours by Appointment TELEPHONE 19	<b>AUDITING - ACCOUNTING</b>  <b>LEVER &amp; HOSKIN</b> Chartered Accountants 51 Main St. N. 212 King St. W. Brampton Toronto 1 Phone: GL 1-424 EM 4-9131
<b>DR. A. J. BUCHANAN</b> Dental Surgeon Office—5A Mill Street Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Wednesday afternoon Telephone 148	<b>TRAVELLERS' GUIDE</b>  <b>GRAY COACH LINES</b> COACHES LEAVE ACTON
<b>C. F. LEATHERLAND, Q.C.</b> Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public Office Hours: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Saturdays by appointment only Office 22 - Phone - Res 151 ACTON	Standard Time Eastbound 8:33 a.m. Daily except Sun and Hol., 8:58 a.m. 11:33 a.m. 2:08 p.m.; 5:08 p.m. 8:33 p.m. 9:33 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.; 8:12 p.m.; 9:12 p.m.; 11:52 p.m. (Fri., Sat., Sun. and Hol.)
<b>A. BRAIDA, B.A.</b> Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public 173 Main St. S., Acton, Ont. Phone 576 Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Saturdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. 15 Cork St. E. Guelph TA 4-2242 Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturdays 9 a.m. - 12 a.m.	<b>CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS</b> Standard Time Eastbound Daily 6:44 a.m.; Daily except Sundays 9:13 a.m. (Chicago); 7:59 p.m. Sunday only 6:05 p.m.; Daily except Sunday Flyer at Georgetown 6:27 a.m.; Daily Flyer at Georgetown 8:11 p.m. Westbound Daily 11:04 a.m.; Daily Sunday 8:59 a.m.; 6:44 p.m.; Saturday only 6:22 p.m.; only 6:45 a.m. (Chicago); only Flyer at Guelph 1:01 Daily except Sat. and p.m.

## The Acton Free Press

Published by the Dills Printing and Publishing Co. Limited  
 Founded in 1875 and published every Thursday at 59 Willow  
 St. Acton, Ontario. Member of the Audit Bureau of  
 Circulations, the C.W.N.A. and the Ontario-Quebec  
 Division of the C.W.N.A. Advertising rates on request. Sub-  
 scriptions payable in advance. \$3.00 in Canada, \$4.00 in the  
 United States; six months \$1.75, single copies 7c. Authorized  
 as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

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