

Editorial Page

The Final Link

Installation of dial telephones in Acton within the next year came a little closer to reality when no objections were registered to a change in zoning necessary to accommodate the dial station at the corner of Church and Elgin Streets.

The addition of dial phones has been looked forward to here for several seasons.

Acton is hemmed in by dial installations. Neighboring communities including Rockwood, Campbellville, Milton, Georgetown and Guelph have had the service for some time. With dial phones comes a direct distance dialing feature that can connect you with distant places by using a dial code. This is an added convenience.

But perhaps most important is our hope that Acton's relatively small telephone area might be enlarged by the introduction of toll

free zone to zone service. By this method it would be possible, for instance, for people at Limhouse now on the Georgetown exchange, to call friends or places of business on the Acton exchange without a long distance charge.

Acton's dial installation would seem to be the last link necessary before such a service could be considered.

The town's trading area has been seriously limited for a good many years by its small telephone exchange area. The store at Speyside for instance is on the Georgetown exchange as are Limhouse and Ballanfad.

Extended area service would seem to equalize this disadvantage of the past years.

We hope it will receive the consideration of municipal and Bell telephone officials as soon as possible.

"In No Way Subordinate"

Autonomous communities within the British Empire, equal in status, in no way subordinate one to another in any aspect of their domestic or external affairs, though united by a common allegiance to the Crown, and freely associated as members of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

As the ninth Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference since the war is underway it seems fitting we should recall the above definition. There has been tremendous pressure for Canadian representative Prime Minister Diefenbaker to charge in and denounce South Africa's apartheid policy of segregation.

We have little sympathy with discrimination either here or in South Africa, and we have it in both places, but the definition outlines some limitations. "In no way subordinate one to another in any aspect of their domestic or external affairs..." we would think means just that.

Ahead or Behind

Development of the Bomarc missile program in the United States has been followed with varying degrees of interest. The interest in this area has perhaps been a little more keen than in other provinces.

On February 20, 1959, Prime Minister Diefenbaker announced that he had killed the Canadian Arrow program and terminated the jobs of 14,000 workers at Malton. The plane, he admitted, was a success but it had been "overtaken by events". It was to be replaced by the American Bomarc-B guided missile and bases for launching were to be constructed in Canada. "Already", he announced to the House of Commons, "the U.S. air force has decided not to continue with the further development and production of U.S. aircraft having the same general performance as the Arrow."

For All Mothers

Young mothers, older mothers, grandmothers, all receive this week on a special day outward expressions of what we all feel inwardly every day.

Miss Anna Jarvis was the prime mover in establishing Mother's Day. During the period of mourning following her mother's death in 1905, she conceived the idea of establishing a Mother's Day for everybody.

From her home in Philadelphia she conducted one of the strangest and most effective letter-writing campaigns in history. She wrote to anyone with any influence and received such tremendous response that she had to devote her time wholly to her crusade. Her own house was too small to serve as an office so she bought the house next door for additional space. She was invited to visit other cities and speak to various organizations about her plan. She wrote and published booklets about her idea and distributed them free of charge. The fact that her inheritance was dwindling away never bothered her.

U.S. President Woodrow Wilson signed the proclamation which urged that the second Sunday in May, the anniversary of her mother's death, be observed as Mother's Day. But this was not enough for Anna. She wanted the Day to be international and she was successful. During her lifetime Canada and 42 other countries adopted Mother's Day.

One of the reasons the Commonwealth has survived and flourished is that its members have developed the habit of co-operation, of mutual consultation, of friendly and informal discussion. This does not necessarily produce agreement. It may produce only partial agreement, or even only agreement to differ. But it is almost certain to produce some measure of understanding and to take at least some of the bitterness out of differences however sharp.

Results of the current Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference may be discouraging in their lack of definition but it should be remembered this is not a pressure group or a summit conference. It is an exchange, discussion, consultation or simply talks between representatives "united by a common allegiance to the Crown and freely associated as members of the British Commonwealth of Nations."

The United States is now on the verge of scrapping this missile in order to build more F-106 supersonic fighters, the counterpart of our CF-105.

The sudden termination of employment of those Malton workers affected this area as many others. Even now, although the recovery has been better than anticipated, there are those who never recovered or gained new employment.

Today all Defense Minister Pearkes can say about the scrapping of a weapon on which Canada had based its entire air defence program is that if the decision is finalized it "will not be in keeping with arrangements made a year ago."

If the Arrow was overtaken by events a year ago, our government is now far behind them.

Some anonymous writer has said "Mother is indeed a sweet name and her station is indeed a holy one; for in her hands are placed minds, to be molded almost at her will."

The day set apart as Mother's Day is for all mothers. It is a special day, perhaps thwarted a little by commercialism but none the less a day for sincere appreciation, a day for outward expression of what we feel inwardly every day.

"The shift of spending from individual Canadians who produce the wherewithal for their own expenditures to government which produces nothing is one of the more alarming of the developments of the past three decades," Stuart Armour, Economic Adviser, The Steel Company of Canada, Limited, said recently.

Whereas in 1949 personal expenditures on goods and services constituted 66.8 per cent. of all Canadian expenditures, in 1959 the percentage had dropped to 63.6 per cent. Government expenditures on goods and services constituted 13 per cent. of all Canadian expenditures in 1949 and 19 per cent. in 1959.

No country can claim to be really free when the freedom of its people to spend the fruits of their production in their own way is being more and more circumscribed."



—Photo by Esther Taylor

"First In"

Sugar and Spice...

BY BILL SMILEY

We have a Civil Defense organization in this country. I am led to believe. None of our governments — federal, provincial or municipal — knows much about it, wants any responsibility for it, or is anxious to help finance it.

This Civil Defense outfit suggests building bomb shelters, explains about fallout, publishes pamphlets, tells people in the cities to head for the country when the bomb drops, and has conferences at which speakers urge action.

A few people work hard to make something of it. But it has limited funds and little encouragement, due to public and government apathy. As a result, our Civil Defense is about as useful an article as a lock for the door of a barn from which a horse has just escaped.

Just to show you how useless Civil Defense is, I'm writing this by candlelight, because the power went off during an electrical storm. My furnace is off and the house grows colder. My refrigerator is off and the beer grows warmer. My stove is off and I can't even make a cup of tea to buck me up.

Do you know what Civil Defense is doing about this? Nothing. Nobody has been around with lanterns, hot coffee or emergency sandwiches. Nobody has called to tell me why the lights are out, or what's being done to get the power on. In fact, a few minutes ago, I called Ottawa and asked for the head of Civil Defense. I asked him a few pointed questions, and the only answers he'd give me were "pretty, rude ones. Of course it was I, a.m., and he'd been asleep. But do you think he cared that an entire community sits in blackness, meat rotting in its deepfreezers?

If Civil Defense can't handle a little thing like a thunderstorm, what is it going to do

when the ballistic missiles start thudding around. No conceivable number of pamphlets will be much protection against nuclear bombs.

All this has firmed an idea with which I've been toying for years. At this time of year, right across Canada, husbands and wives who have braved the winter together, with tenderness and fortitude, suddenly discover they can't stand each other. The result is a serious rift, and every spring, thousands of broken homes across the land.

Let's examine the basic cause of this annual disintegration of so many marriages. There is only one reason: because women are not like men. It's a pity, but we must accept it calmly and deal with it reasonably and with tolerance.

Men are gentle creatures, shy, kind and generous. But within the breast of every woman, however soft, pretty and simple she appears, lurks a tiger. At this time of year, the beast emerges, and the housewife pads around, twitching her tail, unsheathing her claws, and glaring with yellow, unblinking eyes at her prey.

No more aware of his fate than a tethered goat, the prey is out on the lawn, chipping away with a nine iron, or sitting on the porch patching his hip waders, or doing something equally sane and creative.

I speak from experience. My wife is tolerable to get along with, as long as the dirty weather lasts. But on the first line Saturday afternoon in spring, the tiger takes over. She stalks around to the back of the house, takes one look, and roars.

In short, it is spring cleaning time. At least once an hour she bursts into either tears or invective. Personally, I think this spring cleaning kick is a form of mental illness. If a woman

keeps her house clean all year, why go into a frenzy in the spring? If those stovepipes, piles of ashes and wet leaves have been lying in the back yard all winter, a few more weeks won't hurt.

But gentle, kindly men don't argue with tigers. They either shoot them or run. The first alternative is against the law. The second is impossible, because once the siege is on, the drawbridge is raised, and retreat is cut off.

And here is where Civil Defense comes in. I propose that we take the entire budget and personnel of Civil Defense, change its name to "Home Defense," and put it to work at something useful, preserving the home and family.

Funds currently being wasted on pamphlets and conferences would be funneled into the building of hostels for husbands. These would be simple, homely places, with beds, a bar, billiard room, card room and dining room. They would be located adjacent to golf courses and trout streams.

Legislation would be passed allowing any man to enter any of these hostels for a retreat, during April and May, for as long or short a period as he wished. His only requirements for admission would be a marriage certificate and the password "Tiger's Loose".

The Bible Today

The extension of Bible distribution in Mexico has required the building of a new Bible House in Mexico City.

Plans are well advanced and a suitable site in the central portion of the city and east of access has been secured. An appeal is being made to the Protestant constituency of the country for assistance in this necessary project. The committee in charge report good progress in the planning and a ready response to the appeal.

Takes 600 Years
Unless the rate of distribution is increased, it has been estimated that it would take 600 years for every inhabitant to receive a Bible or a New Testament.

In the last 20 years, 877,000 Bibles and Testaments have been circulated in a country with a population of 23 million. In the same period seven and a quarter million gospels were distributed. The increase of population points to the fact that the number of those for whom no Bible or New Testament will be available is increasing.

Suggested Readings
Sunday, Genesis 40: 1-24; Monday, Genesis 41: 1-24; Tuesday, Genesis 42: 35-57; Wednesday, Genesis 43: 1-34; Thursday, Genesis 43: 1-34; Friday, Luke 3: 39-52; Philippians 4: 8-13; Saturday, Matthew 15: 8; 27:37; Luke 9: 61-62.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1910

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, May 5, 1910.

The coming into force of Local Option appears to be brooding a real estate already. A property in town which was assessed by assessor Harvey for \$1,000 and valued by its owner on Saturday at \$1,800, was sold on Monday to a purchaser from the vicinity of Georgetown for \$1,825, with a second offer the same day of \$1,800, by an Acton resident. Property values are evidently not dropping through the banishment of whiskey.

The big 140 foot smokestack at the sole leather tannery, 20 feet of the top of which was rebuilt last year, is again showing signs of weakness near the top. The chimney builders have been called to the tannery and are busy setting up forms and beginning to make necessary repairs.

The wholesale harness makers of Calgary are looking for harness makers, and are willing to pay \$16 to \$22 per week and promise steady employment.

During the council meeting Monday evening, several matters of business were tabled and some of these items finalized with council's approval. It was brought to council's attention by councillor McDonald that a well and pump should be installed in the cemetery so the plot owners could water flowers. It was agreed to have this done. Officer Harvey was instructed to have necessary repairs made to the well and pump at the rear of the town hall. Council ordered a stone crusher in to crush stone for a few days in order to repair the depressions appearing in some of the roads.

The Mother's Day movement, which was started two years ago in Philadelphia, will no doubt spread throughout the country and through the efforts of the Canadian Home Journal, soon will be observed widely throughout Canada.

While two young fellows were scuffling near Moffat last Friday evening, a rifle they had went off and one of them was shot in the back. The wounded man is in the hospital, the other in the county jail.

Taken from a 1910 advertisement: canned corn, 7c; Bee Hive syrup, 5 lb. tin, 25c; granulated sugar, 100 lbs. \$5.30; large new lemons, per doz. 15c; canned peas, 7c; canned tomatoes, 8c.

BACK IN 1940

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, May 9, 1940.

Andrew Van Wyck, aged 69, of Hillsburgh, who was struck by a street car at Blou and Dundas Streets, Toronto, on Friday night, April 26, died early the following day in St. Joseph's Hospital, Toronto, from his injuries. He suffered a fractured skull, fractured ribs and bruises.

Mr. Van Wyck was alone when he was struck and police had considerable difficulty in identifying him, but relatives were finally traced. Mr. Van Wyck was a native of Caledon, township and was for many years employed by the Caledon Mountain Trout Club. He was the father of How and Van Wyck of Acton.

S. H. Noble, driver of the street car, a veteran of 23 years, said the man apparently became confused when crossing the street and after crossing the tracks, stepped back into the path of the street car.

One person was critically injured and five others were hurt when the car they were riding in struck a car loaded with potatoes on a narrow bridge on the seventh line in Esquimaux township, five miles northeast of Acton, Friday night. The young people were bound for a dance at Erin at the time of the accident. Donald Cox of Brampton received severe spinal injuries and the driver of the car, Merle Reid of Brampton, received facial cuts and lacerations.

Four Georgetown girls, all passengers, received injuries which necessitated medical attention.

During the regular public school board meeting Monday evening, the members heard the report of the inspector and learned of his praise toward principal G. W. McKenzie and teachers for the advancement of the pupils during the first part of the year. The inspector commented favorably on the playground supervision and improvements in the grounds.

Ladies' Night of Walker Lodge A. F. and A. M. was again a popular event last night when brethren and their wives, not only from Acton and district but from many other lodges, gathered here. The event was held in the Y.M.C.A. building, where guests were welcomed by Wor. Master and Mrs. F. J. Salt and District Deputy Grand Master and Mrs. J. A. Leslie.

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...Dodging 'Round the District

BY ROY DOWNS

Schools are Not Blamed

GEORGETOWN—The 1960 tax rate went up four mills to 65 for residents' property and up six mills to 69 for industrial and commercial. On the average \$4,900 assessment, the hike means an extra \$18 on the tax bill this year. Unlike other centres, council is not blaming school costs on the increase. It was a contingency provision of \$33,700 and exists for uncollected taxes of \$26,600.

See Selves in Future

BURLINGTON—About 800 Burlington high school students saw themselves in the future last week when they attended a career night under the auspices of the Rotary Club. Students discussed their number one and two choices for careers with people who had spent years in the vocations.

19 Months on Board

OAKVILLE—Ground will be broken this month for the \$2,000,000 Hopedale Plaza in southwest Trafalgar Township, and already 80 per cent of the space has been leased. It took 19 months to get the plaza off the planning board rezoning table.

Win Hockey Honors

MILTON—The peewee hockey team won a consolation cup in the Little N.H.L. tournament at Huntsville. Plans are being laid for the first Ontario championship competition in highland dancing at Milton Fair Grounds June 25.

Seek Lacrosse Facilities

GEORGETOWN—A group is trying to have lacrosse facilities for next year, and either a box in the town park or facilities in the arena have been suggested. This year 23 interested men devoted their time to teaching lacrosse to boys, and next year they hope to include age groups up to 16.