

Editorial Page

Those Closed Doors

The operation of small town theatres in recent years had not been a tale of soaring gains in attendance. This week's announcement that the local Roxy will be closed for the summer is a climaxing event.

We're told the supervisor purposely put good pictures into the local show for the month of May to determine the effect on crowds. While student attendance was not bad the adult attendance was pitiful.

There isn't any doubt that the theatre will be missed during its summer months closing, by a good number of people. In these days of increasing awareness of costs not many firms can afford to subsidize one area where its operation is not profit producing.

Acton has had a theatre for a good many years. Just recently Georgetown quite successfully began showing theatre films in the Rose Room connected with the arena because the Roxy theatre there had been destroyed by fire. Prior to this residents, according to issues of the Georgetown paper, had been disturbed by the lack of a theatre that has caused young people to be hitch hiking to

other centres for the attractions.

Perhaps the old saw about locking the door after the horse is stolen has some application to the local theatre. No doubt there will be complaints from businessmen and parents alike but it will take support to open those closed theatre doors, we imagine.

The economics of theatre operation are completely foreign to us but we can certainly appreciate the need to make a profit. Surely there is room in this field for co-operation between theatre and merchants, not in subsidization, but through a general co-operative downtown promotion program. A survey in Streetsville recently revealed that some 95 per cent. of that community's residents were shopping elsewhere. It's no secret that a tremendous amount of Acton's residents shop out-of-town and losing facilities here will alter that trend. There is definitely room for co-operation.

Closing Acton Roxy for the summer may give us all a better appreciation of it and a strong desire for its continuance even on a more limited program if that is economically sound.

No Place for Inexperience

Farmers who allow persons under 16 years of age to drive tractors or motor vehicles along the highways this summer are asking for trouble. Not only are they breaking a law which provides for a five to 10 dollar fine, they are inviting an accident resulting in personal injury or property damage.

While figures have not yet been realized, the 1959 farm accident survey showed that many farm accidents are caused through youthful carelessness or inexperience. Add to this the complex problems of increased heavier horsepower, and you have a strong case against letting these youngsters take to highway traffic, faster vehicle speeds and the highways with cars, trucks or tractors.

While the Highway Traffic Act's section

52 states that no person under the age of 16 years may operate a motor vehicle or farm tractor on a highway, the onus is on the farmer, and the act provides the fine for him.

"Naturally this fine is not as serious as an accident which could be caused from youthful carelessness or inexperience at the wheel when on our main roads," states Gordon Greer, president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. "For years we farmers have been accustomed to having our children learn to drive and operate our farm equipment at an early age, so we tend to forget what the consequences could be."

The only exception to the rule is when the motor vehicle or farm tractor is driven directly across the highway.

Safety Partnership

"Help me prevent accidents—obey your traffic laws." This quotation is apt in that it gets right to the point of a matter which concerns all of us. A photo of Hamilton Police Sergeant Edward Skalinsky will appear above this quotation on a widely distributed billboard poster throughout Ontario.

It is the beginning of a new campaign which is designed to foster community support for effective traffic law enforcement. It reminds motorists and pedestrians that laws are essential to traffic safety, and that without enforcement these laws would be useless. We are all familiar with the "road-hog" and the careless pedestrian who, he thinks, daringly plays "chicken" with oncoming vehicles.

Our society consists of a partnership, one in which the law protectors and the people each have to keep their end of the deal.

This new campaign will be the first of its

kind to appear in North America. It stresses the vital role of policemen in preventing accidents, and urges the public to give their full support by obeying the laws. There are 8,750 men in uniform in this province while the population of Ontario is close to the 6,000,000 mark. One can easily conceive the utter confusion and anarchy if people did not obey the law.

W. B. G. Reynolds of the Highway Safety Branch, Department of Transport, in summing up the objectives of the campaign said, "Traffic laws are for the protection of everyone. They are essential to the safety of the community and by obeying them and supporting our officers we hope to lower the accident rate on our roads and highways."

Don't wait to be told by your club or group. Take the lead yourself, and remember "Help me prevent accidents—obey your traffic laws."

Be Wary and Wise

Hundreds of unsuspecting Canadian home owners will be swindled out of their household savings this summer by fast-talking door-to-door salesmen selling shoddy home repair jobs.

This warning was made in a story appearing in the latest issue of a building supply publication, Toronto. The story drew particular attention to the large number of complaints in the home improvement field that have poured into local offices of the Better Business Bureau across Canada.

In Toronto, for instance, an itinerant repairman told a 73-year-old woman that her roof would collapse if it were not repaired immediately. She agreed to pay all her savings of \$760 to have the roof fixed. The workman appeared for a day-and-a-half and completed his "repairs" with tar paper. A charitable estimate of the job's real worth—\$200.

In Vancouver another operator was seen to climb the roof of a house and pry a brick loose from the chimney. He took the brick to the homeowner and professed amazement that the roof hadn't caught fire. When the frightened householder agreed to pay \$65 for repairs, the chimney was painted a bright red. Probable cost of labor and paint by a reputable firm: \$15.

In Montreal an 80-year-old woman contracted with a "freelance" jobber to have some repairs done on her house. She was billed for \$3,000 and had paid \$1,000 when an alarmed relative stepped in. The local Better Business Bureau was called and an investigation revealed that the repairs shouldn't have cost more than \$600.

The magazine story also offered several tips on what homeowners should do when confronted with the offer of a "bargain" home improvement job by a stranger:

1. Never sign a contract on the first call on until you've read all the fine print.
2. Always ask for a calling card and check the place of business.
3. If you are interested in the offer, call the place of business and see how long it has been located in that spot.
4. Remember, the genuine salesman from a reputable local business will always welcome your inquiries about himself and the firm he represents.
5. Most important, get at least two prices from long-established, local business firms before you sign any contract.
6. If you're in any doubt about a firm, check first with the Better Business Bureau, Chamber of Commerce or the local police.



—Photo by Esther Taylor

"Treasure Trove"

Sugar and Spice...

BY BILL SMILEY

This week I celebrate my 40th birthday. For a woman, that is a fate worse than death. She shies at the cruel barrier like a jumper refusing a too-tall hedge. For my own part, I view the situation with equanimity, interest and not a little satisfaction.

There were a good many times in my life when I didn't think I'd reach 40, hence the satisfaction. This is the age when a man is supposed to get restless and kick over the traces. Hence the interest. And I only have 30 years to go for the pension. Hence the equanimity.

To my children, my 40th birthday marks the approach of senility. They look on me with a mixture of amusement, affection, and indignation. As a father, they are fond enough of me. It's my old-fashioned ideas they can't stand. Like thinking they should go to bed some time before midnight, and should not go swimming on the first of April, and a lot of mossbound old stuff like that.

To my wife, I am a mature man who should start acting like one for a change. I'm a poor father, a useless homemaker and I smoke too much. I am impossible in an argument, sometimes going to the lengths of disagreeing with her. But she's looking forward to the future, nonetheless. She's convinced that given another 15 years, she'll have me housebroken.

To myself, I'm a mere youth, just entering the best years of my life, handsome, courageous, adventurous, and only prevented from running off to the South Seas with Gina Lollobrigida by the fact that she hasn't asked me. That grav at the temples merely adds to my sophisticated

charm. Those groans when I get up in the morning are not my sore back, but manifestations of horror at facing a world in which I am not fully appreciated.

Fortieth birthday is a good time to balance the books. You find out whether there's any working capital to buy a toboggan for the long slide down the other slope of the mountain it's taken you 40 years to climb. Looking over my assets, I find that I've had more than my share of good fortune, and can face the coming years, if not with joy, at least without despair.

Physically, I'm lucky. Lots of men my age have paunches, not mere pots. Lots of men my age have neither their own teeth nor hair, and mine, while not luxuriant, are my own. Lots of men my age are totting enough blubber to make an Eskimo's mouth water, but I have to eat like a hyena, just to stay even.

Lots of men my age have an ulcer, a liver condition, high blood pressure or a strained heart. I've been spared these banes. Can't smell a thing, but I can see right across a room, and I can hear a mouse burp at 20 paces. Don't worry, I'm typing this with all fingers crossed.

The years have been good to me financially, too. When I was married, I had \$108.60 in the bank and didn't owe a cent. On my 40th birthday, I have \$35.40 and owe everybody in town. But I have a big, old house half paid for, and a six-year-old car all paid for, and two kids all paid for, and a wife who still hasn't got that fur coat but has a floor polisher and built-in cupboards.

In the mental and spiritual

...Dodging 'Round the District

BY ROY DOWNS

OAKVILLE—Contrary to a story in one of Oakville's weeklies last Wednesday, the decision of Ford Motor Co. of Canada to build its own glass factory is only "a matter of little importance to us," says the president of Duplate Canada in a Toronto Star interview. Duplate has been Ford's principal supplier of window glass, and the exuberant Oakville news-writers billed the Ford move as a real shocker to Duplate's plant manager. "I am so," says Duplate's president. "It's what they've done before in the U.S."

GEORGETOWN—The first in a series of movies to be shown here by United Artists on an experimental basis drew a capacity and, hence, last week. Since the local theatre was burned out two years ago, theatregoers have missed the local movies. Ed Dobbs got the company to show films twice on Saturdays in the arena's Rose Room, and from the initial turnout, the venture will be successful.

BURLINGTON—A mother and son were among 11 Burlingtonians graduating at McMaster University's spring convocation. Mrs. Leone Chapple and her son, Gerald Chapple, received bachelor of arts degrees. Gerald plans to study at Harvard University.

BRAMPTON—Foreign competition running rampant through the government's lack of control over imports was blamed last week when Kuroflex Plastics Ltd. shut down its plant and 35 women and 15 men joined the ranks of the jobless. The company is moving equipment to its Montreal plant, to meet the impact of competitive plastic footwear made in Japan, Hong Kong and Europe.

WATERDOWN—Fried chicken a-la-farm was the specialty of the house when Arthur Kemp's barn and 7,000 chickens were consumed by fire last week. Waterdown firemen were unable to save any part of the barn or the chickens, but kept the fire from nearby buildings.

GEORGETOWN—Hulton M.P.P. Stanley Hall cut the ribbon to officially open Georgetown's fifth public school, named after the town's founder George Kennedy.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1910

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, June 2, 1910.

A new coating mill is to be constructed in Georgetown at a very early date on the property directly east of the present one. Mr. L. E. Fleck is at its head, backed by a number of influential capitalists. It will have a large output and employ approximately 70 hands. At a special meeting of the Georgetown council Monday evening, it was agreed to grant the new industry a fixed taxation amounting to \$10,000 and supply 500 gallons of water per day to the plant.

Several young men have been bicycling on the pavements in town during the past week and a by-law provides for a substantial penalty to all offenders. Constable Harvey has been instructed to enforce the by-law and offenders are warned against this practice.

Mr. J. P. Worden has purchased the barbering business in the shop next to Kenney Brothers' store on Mill St. Mr. Worden had sold this business some time ago to Mr. M. McEachern.

The public school trustees have made a move in the right direction and have ordered the school grounds beautified. Everyone will agree that beautification of this area will be an asset not only to residents but to the pupils as well.

Mr. C. B. Ebbage, tile maker, lost his valuable driver Monday through lockjaw. It had been ill for several days and the ailment developed so it was necessary to shoot the animal on Monday to relieve it of its suffering. The mare was valued at \$200.

During the council meeting Monday evening, it was agreed to allow the G.T.R. to build a siding into the Beardmore tannery by using a portion of Queen St. It was agreed to close off a portion of Queen St. to allow the G.T.R. a right-of-way. Provisions are being made for a crossing to the Crescent.

At the congregational meeting of the Methodist church last evening, the following were elected as society representatives to the Official Board: Mrs. Jennie Smith, Thomas Gamble, N. F. Moore, J. W. Husband, R. N. Brown, Frank Gamble and Frank Kennedy.

BACK IN 1940

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, June 6, 1940.

The Lakeside Chapter I.O.D.E. held their June meeting in the Y.M.C.A. Tuesday evening and heard various reports and discussed future projects. One of the important features was the decision to continue with assistance to the Red Cross and other war work. Miss M. Z. Bennett gave a very interesting talk on Cape Cod, illustrated with slides. Lunch was served at the conclusion of the meeting.

Residents of S. S. No. 12 and former pupils residing in this area are making great plans to welcome back to school the pupils of other days from far and near. And when they come they are to be royally entertained at Lorne on July 1. It will be the first reunion held at Lorne since the school was erected over 50 years ago.

Last week three large cartons of supplies were shipped from the Red Cross rooms here to district headquarters for shipment overseas. The Acton and district branch has contributed steadily to the Red Cross demands and are to be commended on their fine work.

During the council meeting Monday evening, approval was given Bill Benson, Y.M.C.A. secretary, to have a raft built for use at Fairy Lake in teaching children how to swim. Chief Harrop will be instructed to make sure the raft is used for the purpose requested.

On Friday of last week, the annual Junior Farmer plowing match was held on the farm of A. S. Mahon and Son near Campbellville under the auspices of the Halton Plowmen's Association. Many of the young farmers were out to take part in the event and Ray Service of Milton proved to be the youngest and best plowman in his class. The youngster turned the best ridge of any of the competitors.

Mrs. S. Matthews was elected president of Bannockburn Women's Institute during the meeting held at the home of Mrs. F. Cole last week. First vice-president is Miss L. Miller; second vice-president, Mrs. A. Kerr; secretary, Mrs. S. Morrison; pianist, Margaret Brown.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

MEDICAL	FUNERAL DIRECTORS
DR. W. G. C. KENNEY Physician and Surgeon Office in Symon Block 454 Mill St. E. Acton Office Phone 78 Residence 115 Church St. E. Phone 150	Bumley Shoemaker FUNERAL HOME Phone 699 night or day Bruce E. Shoemaker, Mgr.
DR. D. A. GARRETT Physician and Surgeon Corner of Willow and River St. Entrance River St. Acton, Ont. Phone 238	CHIROPRACTOR A. D. MOORE, D.C. Palmer Specific Chiropractor 17 Mill Street Phone 40 or 66 Office Hours: Wed. 2-7 Sat. 2-5
DR. ROBERT L. BUCKNER Physician and Surgeon 39 Wellington St., Acton, Ont. Phone 679 Office Hours 6-8 p.m. Afternoons by Appointment	OPTICAL AND HEARING AIDS E. L. BUCHNER, R.O. Optometrist and Hearing Aids 48 Mill St. E. Phone 115 Office Hours Office closed June 8 Office open again June 15 Wednesdays only 2:00-6:00 p.m. Evenings by appointment
F. L. WRIGHT 20 Wilbur St. Acton, Ontario Phone 95 Appraiser, Real Estate and Insurance	ROBERT R. HAMILTON Optometrist Eyes Examined Glasses Fitted 60 Main St. N. Georgetown, Ont. Office Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. to Fri. Evenings by appointment Closed Saturday For appointment please phone: TR 7-5971
REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE	AUDITING & ACCOUNTING LEVER & HOSKIN Chartered Accountants 51 Main St. N. 212 King St. W. Brampton Toronto 1 Phone: OL 1-4824 EM 4-9131
ROCKWOOD	TRAVELLERS' GUIDE
100 Artists Scan Valley Road Scenery Last week a second group of Humber Valley Art Club members was in the village on a painting tour on Valley Road. The group has a membership of about 100, split up into groups of 30. Mr. Adrian Dingle is instructor and has been in different countries on painting tours. Another instructor who received a grant under Canada Council went to India last year to study. The whole group are amateurs, and are holding an exhibition in Royal York United Church gymnasium, June 22, which will be opened by Miss Mary Jolliffe, who is assistant public relations director for Toronto Civic Centre. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Harvey D. Bridgman in the death of her husband suddenly Saturday at his home on Main St. in his 71st year. Other members of the family are Melvin H. of Montreal, Richard H. of Fort William, ten grandchildren and a brother. Mr. Bridgman rested at the Kitching Funeral Home, Waterdown, where service was held Tuesday, with interment in Waterdown cemetery. Mr. Eddie Barlow is preparing to build a house on upper Main St. The excavation has been done. Another new residence for the community. On word from Duluth, Minn. Misses Minnie and Colena Nickell have left to be with their sister Margaret (Mrs. Wm. Ames) in her illness. They are motoring to their destination. James Meek of Elmira was home for the weekend.	GRAY COACH LINES COACHES LEAVE ACTON Daylight Saving Time Eastbound 8:30 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol.); 1:30 a.m.; 3:08 p.m.; 5:08 p.m.; 8:35 p.m.; 10:06 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.). Westbound 10:27 a.m.; 12:57 p.m.; 2:57 p.m.; 5:27 p.m.; 7:27 p.m.; 9:15 p.m.; 11:22 p.m.; 1:12 a.m. (Fri., Sat., Sun. and Hol.).
LEGAL	CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS Standard Time Eastbound Daily except Sunday 5:44 a.m.; (Daily except Sunday) 9:12 a.m.; (flagstop); 7:14 p.m.; Sunday only 8:01 p.m.; Daily except Sunday Flyer at Georgetown 6:27 a.m.; Daily Flyer at Georgetown 10:11 p.m. Westbound Daily 12:29 a.m.; Daily except Sunday, 8:50 a.m.; 8:44 p.m.; Saturday only 1:22 p.m.; Sunday only 8:00 a.m. (flagstop); Sunday Flyer at Guelph 7:05 p.m.; Daily except Sat. and Sun. 5:31 p.m.
C. F. LEATHERLAND, Q.C. Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public Office Hours: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 1 p.m.-9 p.m. Saturdays by appointment only Office 22—Phone—Res. 151 ACTON	A. BRAIDA, B.A. Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public 173 Main St. S., Acton, Ont. Phone 578 Office Hours: 9 p.m. - 9 p.m. 1 p.m. - 9 p.m. Saturdays 15 Cork St. E. Guelph TA 4-2342 Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturdays 9 a.m. - 12 a.m.
HASTINGS & PAYNE Barristers and Solicitors Notaries Public 1A Mill St., Acton For appointments call 694.	

The Acton Free Press

Published by the Dills Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd. Founded in 1875 and published every Thursday at 59 Willow St., Acton, Ontario. Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations of the C.W.N.A. and the Ontario-Quebec Division of the C.W.N.A. Advertising rates on request. Subscriptions 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