

Editorial Page

It Augurs Well

Keeping Acton Fall Fair going year after year is a small army of officers, directors, exhibitors, organizations and spectators. Friday and Saturday was another example of how successfully Acton Fall Fair is continuing.

The list of those who assisted on Friday and Saturday would not only be lengthy it would be difficult to compile. From the bands, Scottish dancers, exhibitors, Chamber of Commerce officials, firemen, Rotarians and Lions the event was a community event and a fine display of what community co-operation can produce.

Even the loss of the curling rink, the former exhibit hall, didn't prove an insurmountable obstacle. With the co-operation of the J. B. Mackenzie lumber firm, the work of directors and Chamber of Commerce officials the arena proper was converted to an

even more acceptable exhibit hall adding a new touch.

Industrial exhibits encouraged last year were returned this year and while all industries weren't able to participate, they may find it possible another year.

Local entertainment on the arena stage Friday night and Saturday afternoon was even more acceptable than some of the imported talent that has performed in recent years.

Exhibits of livestock, domestic, ladies' work, preserves, and all the other items seemed up to or above par which argues well for the continuation of the small town fair.

There were hundreds who participated in the fair. That in itself is a good sign for the community and the future. Only by continuing such co-operation in the fair and other events can the community grow and prosper.

A Newspaper's Wins

Our thanks this week to all those who expressed their congratulations on recent wins this newspaper made in the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Competition.

It's always nice to win but it is doubly nice to know that the people of the town and district the paper serves, also take pride in the accomplishment. This is as it should be for no newspaper is self sufficient. It depends on readers and correspondents, advertisers and employees.

Inanimate as a newspaper may appear it seems to command more personal effort, emotion and life than any one individual because it is a town, an area and the record of the lives of those it serves.

The C.W.N.A.'s competition is an annual event designed to encourage improvement in Canada's weekly newspapers. More than 500 Canadian papers are eligible

for the competitions that are based on circulation groupings. Newspapers are judged on a number of factors including appearance, typography, front page, editorial page, news content, advertising and other elements that make up a newspaper.

Putting together a newspaper requires a whole chain with many people forming the links that lead to the completed paper. In that chain the reader is as important as the one who writes the story, sets the type, telephones a news lead, develops a negative, makes an engraving, reads a proof, makes up a page, places an advertisement or operates the press.

It is everyone in a plant and in a community that helps make a successful newspaper. And it is on this basis that we extend the thanks of the newspaper to all who make Canada-wide wins possible.

"The Year of Africa"

When Khrushchev torpedoed the Paris summit meeting back in May it was assumed he was motivated by something more than anger at the admission by the U.S. of spy flights over Russian territory. Now it seems likely that his carefully-staged, last minute cancellation of the Paris talks was primarily a move to influence Russian public opinion, to reverse the feeling of friendship for the West that had been permitted to sprout. Previously there had been a considerable contact between Westerners and Russians. Thousands of tourists had been granted visas to visit the U.S.S.R. Cultural exchanges had been extensive. And there was the widespread enthusiasm for the visit of President Eisenhower that was to follow the Paris conference. But why permit friendship to grow if, in just a few weeks, events abroad could be turned to communist advantage only in a climate of enmity?

That such calculated manipulation of Russian opinion has occurred can not be doubted. In a news despatch from Moscow passed by the Russian censors, Nora Beloff of the London Observer has reported "a series of events which are mounting up to give the ordinary Russian, depending only on Soviet papers and radio, the terrifying impression that the leaders of the Western alliance are preparing an offensive war."

The most serious of the Kremlin's cynical misinterpretations of the truth concerns events in the Congo Republic. "There is," says Miss Beloff from Moscow, "more excitement and organized indignation over Western intervention in the Congo than on any other issue. As the Soviet newspaper Izvestia says '1960 is rightly called the year of Africa.' Soviet-African solidarity has been expressed this week in a special rally honoring the newly independent states in the Moscow Central Park. The picture presented to the Russians is of an imperialist plot hatched by Americans and collectively carried through with Belgian, French, British and West German complicity to retain imperialist control over Congolese minerals."

Although audiences at Soviet-African friendship rallies in Moscow Central Park will never hear it, the truth is that Belgium's only aim was independence for the Congo and the West's only hope was that the new republic's 100,000 white residents could live in harmony with their new rulers. The Kremlin, on the other hand welcomed, and probably helped foment, chaos and rioting. If the white population can be driven out of the Congo, Russian technicians will be ready to step in—as they have elsewhere in Africa.

For Khrushchev and company "the year of Africa" means only the year that they hope to establish Russian imperialism there.

Old for New?

A panel of four voted three to one at the Ontario Municipal Association meeting in Vineland last week, that the county council system of government needs changes if not abolition.

To us the suggestion of Reeve H. J. Sams of Waterdown made sense. He advocated improving and streamlining it to provide more useful services to municipalities.

Those opposing the county system suggested some new system of government to serve economic areas; one argued there were already too many forms of government, one suggested the small municipalities power should be increased.

So often there are advocates who urge change to some new unknown and untried plan simply on the suggestion that the existing system is old-fashioned. How ridiculous. There isn't doubt in the world that the county system is old. It was established in

1849 under the Baldwin Act and hasn't been changed greatly since.

There seems no reason to us, though, why that county system could not become the vehicle for an expansion of county services on a county basis with local improvement areas. Already Halton has indicated the possibilities with hospital and school financing. Problems of extending services from one municipality into another would not have the same problems if industrial assessment was shared at the county level.

A group of officials asked the provincial government to study the county system some time ago to consider its future and usefulness. So far we've heard of little action on the subject and yet it seems one of the most important starting places for the boundary problems that are facing all municipalities.



—Photo by Esther Taylor

"Fair View"

Sugar and Spice...

BY BILL SMILEY

Boy, my only regret is that somebody didn't steer me into this teaching game years ago. It's the easiest stint I've had since I worked in the salt mines of Poland as a prisoner of war. About the same hours, too.

And another aspect of the job has cheered me immensely. Before I began teaching, I agreed with most people that teenagers were monsters from outer space, or somewhere. I've changed my mind completely. I have five classes of them and there isn't a single one from outer space, as far as I can learn.

The amazing thing about it is not that it's so easy, it's that you actually get paid for it. I doubt whether squirrels running on a treadmill receive a nickel for their efforts. And as far as I know, the prisoners in those labor camps in Siberia don't draw a salary. Teaching is just as easy as either of these occupations.

Seriously, I've never met more interesting people than the 180-odd kids I face each day. They range from bright little crickets of boys, athirst for knowledge, to great hulking brutes of 17, whose leering presence makes your hackles rise; from dumpy little dolls who will get a crush on me, to elegant, sophisticated young women who will scarcely deign to sweep me with one of those insolent glances with which elegant, sophisticated young women dismiss old men of 40.

It's not really so bad, though. You don't have to get up until about 7:15 in the morning, and some nights you have your lesson preparations completed by 2 a.m. I seem to be thriving on it. I've only lost seven pounds, have lasted two weeks, and haven't even been fazed yet.

Oh, it's exhausting, but scarcely dull. The modern high school is a far cry from the drearily hall of learning you and I attended. Dad, the bodies are pouring into them from the public schools at such a rate that space and time are the essentials in coping with them. As a result, the thundering herd must be kept on the run and under the thumb, to avoid chaos.

With a broader curriculum, and his outside activities tripped or quadrupled, the youth of today must scramble, not amble, if he is to avoid being trampled underfoot. Young Hugh, who made the jump this year from the moderate pace of public school, with its recess periods and long lunch hour, to the split-second gallop of a district high school, is enthralled and appalled.

Then there's the happy, Bohemian camaraderie of the teachers' room. Six men teachers, slumped heavily in chairs, staring at their boots and sucking repair on the weed. A few women teachers, exchanging sprightly repartee about how their feet hurt. It's all sort of gay and warm and charming.

...Dodging 'Round the District

BY ROY DOWNS

MILTON—With a resounding blast (supplied by a skyrocket) Milton's new Rotary park was officially opened Wednesday last week. Little Nuckie Letter has chosen from a group of minor ball players to light the rocket and open the park. Races, ball games and a family picnic with tree refreshments highlighted the opening. The park includes wading pool, swings, sand pile, horseshoe pits, ball diamonds, and picnic facilities.

BURLINGTON—Nine new subdivisions with a potential of 2,500 homes were approved within 30 days by the Burlington planners, and another 10 are now waiting approval. Meanwhile, the board rejected 20 plans of subdivision on the grounds of prematurity or pending changes. The recently subdivided lots approved could mean more than \$7,000,000 worth of new homes.

ERIN—The Lions Club members are conducting a campaign to raise funds for the new concrete floor recently laid on the Erin Coliseum. A giant thermometer has been placed in downtown Erin and progress of the \$20,000 fund will be recorded on it. So far, one-quarter of the necessary money has been raised.

OAKVILLE—On October 3 the official completion of the Oakville Rotary Club's apartment buildings for senior citizens will be formally opened by a Rotary official. The project includes four two-story buildings, each containing four apartments.

STREETSVILLE—Council is discussing changing the village into a town status, due to a population increase from 1,000 in 1950 to 5,000 today. A likely date for the change was suggested as Dec. 31, 1961.

MALTON—The brains that built the Avro Arrow have been turned to building boats—and about 100 Canadians will find new jobs as a result. The A. V. Roe company announced it is to produce, an aluminum luxury cruiser, aimed at the booming U.S. market, and work will begin immediately. Executive vice-president Harvey R. Smith said the project will not distract from Avro's aviation interests.

GEORGETOWN—A town survey project of the Department of Agriculture at University of Toronto will bring a group of students to town during the next two months. At the completion of the study, university heads will meet council with their findings.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1910

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Sept. 22, 1910.

With a view of reducing the annual slaughter of deer, the Ontario and Quebec authorities have made a provision that for this season each licensed hunter will be allowed to shoot but one deer.

An addition of 150 volumes to the library of the Methodist Sunday School was opened on Sunday. The members of the school are enjoying the privilege of securing the new books.

At the evening service of the Methodist church last Sunday, Rev. Dr. Antill and H. P. Moore gave an interesting resume of the organization and work accomplished at the recent session of the General Conference at Victoria, B.C. The leading topics discussed were reviewed and an epitome of the work to be undertaken by the church in the future in its missionary, educational and evangelistic operations was given.

At a special meeting of the council last Thursday night, a bylaw was passed to regulate and govern billiard rooms, bowling alleys, picture shows, etc. The licence fee was fixed at \$20, \$10 and \$5, and the hours for closing limited to 11 o'clock. Reeve Hynds and Councillor Brown held out for 10:30 for closing but were outvoted. No billiard licenses have yet been issued but it is reported two rooms will be opened shortly.

Mr. Joseph Blair had his left hand badly lacerated in a shaving machine at the harness shop last Tuesday night. It is healing nicely and he expects to resume work within a week.

Mr. Wm. Gamble, the well known celery grower of Georgetown, was in town the other day with a load of his famous production. The season has been very successful and the heads of the celery he delivered here were mammoth indeed and of very fine flavor.

This year there are 1660 new teachers in the province of Ontario. This rate of supply is kept up for a couple more years, ought to remedy the shortage that has been felt for some time even if there are numerous re-motals to the west.

BACK IN 1940

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Sept. 26, 1940.

Tom Hodgson, who was coming to Acton from England to be plant manager of the Wool Combing Corporation of Canada, was among those who were reported missing when the City of Benares was torpedoed and sank. Mr. Hodgson was accompanied by his wife but she was saved.

In the first drastic move to save electric power, an order-in-council which was gazetted on Saturday provides that communities which have been on Daylight Saving Time during the past summer shall continue indefinitely on daylight time. It is intended for Ontario and Quebec rather than the rest of the country. It was just two weeks previously that Acton had gone on Standard Time. The period for the observance of this time is indefinite.

Throughout the summer months, about 50 or 60 men from Acton and surrounding district have been receiving training by drilling on modern military lines, lectures on musketry, signalling etc. This training has been under the guidance of J. M. McDonald, president of the Canadian Legion. Officers were chosen this week: commanding officer, J. M. McDonald, second in command, B. Bayless, Adjutant, E. F. Hartopp, Staff sergeant, F. L. Wright. They are called Acton Civic Guard.

In reply to a request from Mavor Bickett of London, England, for the namesake in Canada to contribute to the fund to purchase a Spitfire fighter for the Royal Air Force, two meetings were held to discuss plans. Committees and officers were named for a big carnival to be held on October 12. Reeve J. B. Chalmers is chairman. It is hoped to make this event one of the largest and finest ever held here.

The shipment from Acton and District Red Cross on September 20 included 132 pair socks, 13 scarves and 20 sweaters. Workers have been busy even during the summer.

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