

# Editorial Page

## A Logical Location

Approval for the Bower Ave. site of a new post office seems a highly logical decision on the part of Acton Council.

The site presently proposed would include the old Storey Glove factory at the corner of Alice and Bower Ave. The corner lot location would seem advantageous.

Perhaps more important, however, would be the relief it could afford some of the Mill St. traffic problems at noon hour. Some school children who pick up the mail on the way home wouldn't be obliged to cross Mill St. that is already busy with highway 7 through traffic.

There is a convenient route from the station to the site along Bower Ave. from the tracks. With pavement on all streets it is

as conducive to locate on a side street as on the main street.

Traffic problems will certainly not all be eliminated if the post office is located on the Bower site. Speeding along the straight road is already a problem. It does seem, however, that some street parking will be available on both sides of the street without narrowing the travelled portion of the road too much.

There will no doubt be disadvantages to the site but that will be the case in any chosen. It does, however, seem to overcome some of the major difficulties of congestion and traffic hazards.

Council's action in approving the site seems quite logical.

## A Familiar Place

Every municipality in Ontario and most in Canada would like to attract more industry. The reasons are simple economic facts. Industry and commerce help cut the share of the municipal revenue that the home-owner has to provide, while requiring less in the way of schools and other services.

The startling thing about it all is that so many citizens know so few of the answers that they might conceivably be asked about their town.

This is the kind of information that citizens need to know to be town boosters too. It's so easy to be critical but it does require some effort to be constructive just as it requires some effort to know the answers about a town.

For instance a booklet distributed by the Department of Planning and Development asks "How well do you know your municipality" and proceeds to outline some pertinent questions.

What is the population? How many persons on the police force? What type of fire

alarm system is in operation? What type of water source is used? What is the average daily water consumption in gallons? What is the cycle of the hydro power? What is the basis for assessment? Are there any special tax concessions for local industry? What portion of the mill rate goes to education? What is the total enrollment and how many schools are there in town?

Is there a planning board? an Industrial Commission? What is the average residential assessment? Are Customs facilities available? Is the community serviced by bus and train service? What truck transport facilities are available? What are the names of the Unions presently in the municipality? Are there any empty industrial buildings in the community?

Certainly some of the questions seem facetious but they are questions anyone could logically be asked in everyday out-of-town conversation. Knowing one's community can be vital and everyone in a community who feels industrial development important should be playing on the industrial Commission team to achieve the maximum.

## More Life in History

Canadian novelist Hugh MacLennan, in a recent article says Canada has one of the most colorful histories in the world, yet history book writers make it the "dullest subject" on the student's curriculum.

MacLennan proposes a single book, with each chapter a brief, vivid life-story of a great Canadian. "The story of how Canada, once a colony, became the first nation on earth to achieve responsible government, without a revolution, can be told in the life of a single, dramatic figure—Joseph Howe. The story of how the Dominion evolved into the Commonwealth can be read in the life-story of Sir John A. MacDonald. The story of Peter Pond, alone in a cabin so cold his ink froze, drawing the first map of northwest America, tells a young person more about Canada than ten pages of statistics".

We agree with MacLennan that history can be made more understandable, more appreciated with a more interesting recording of the facts. Anyone who has ever written history becomes so involved in their subject they can think of little else, this is the attraction of history.

The chronological listing of facts is difficult to overcome yet in many historical books in this area, the history has been recorded interestingly and in terms of people rather than dates.

Just as MacLennan proposes a book on Canadian history so every community in Canada should have a group of volunteers interested in recording the history and preserving it for an interesting re-telling as the history that laid the foundation for Canada.

## Obvious Benefits

The theory that increased government spending is the avenue to a country's continued economic expansion, currently popular in some quarters as a quick solution to unemployment, found at least one dissenter at the annual conference of the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council. In this dissenting opinion, gradual tax reductions offer more certain aid to economic growth.

The speaker was Dr. Charles F. Phillips, president of Maine's Bates College and head of New England body that corresponds to the APEC. "Government spending programs", said Dr. Phillips, "have only a temporary influence and lead to unbalanced budgets, high taxes and inflation. What we need is not a temporary stimulus but a long-range plan to promote economic growth without inflation. Nothing would be as effective as a gradual reduction in corporation and personal taxes..."

Lower prices were also advocated by Dr. Phillips as a means of aiding the growth that government and business for acceptance of would ease unemployment. He criticized both union demands that increased productivity must always be reflected in higher wages. If the improvement in output were shared with the consumer through lower prices, he said,

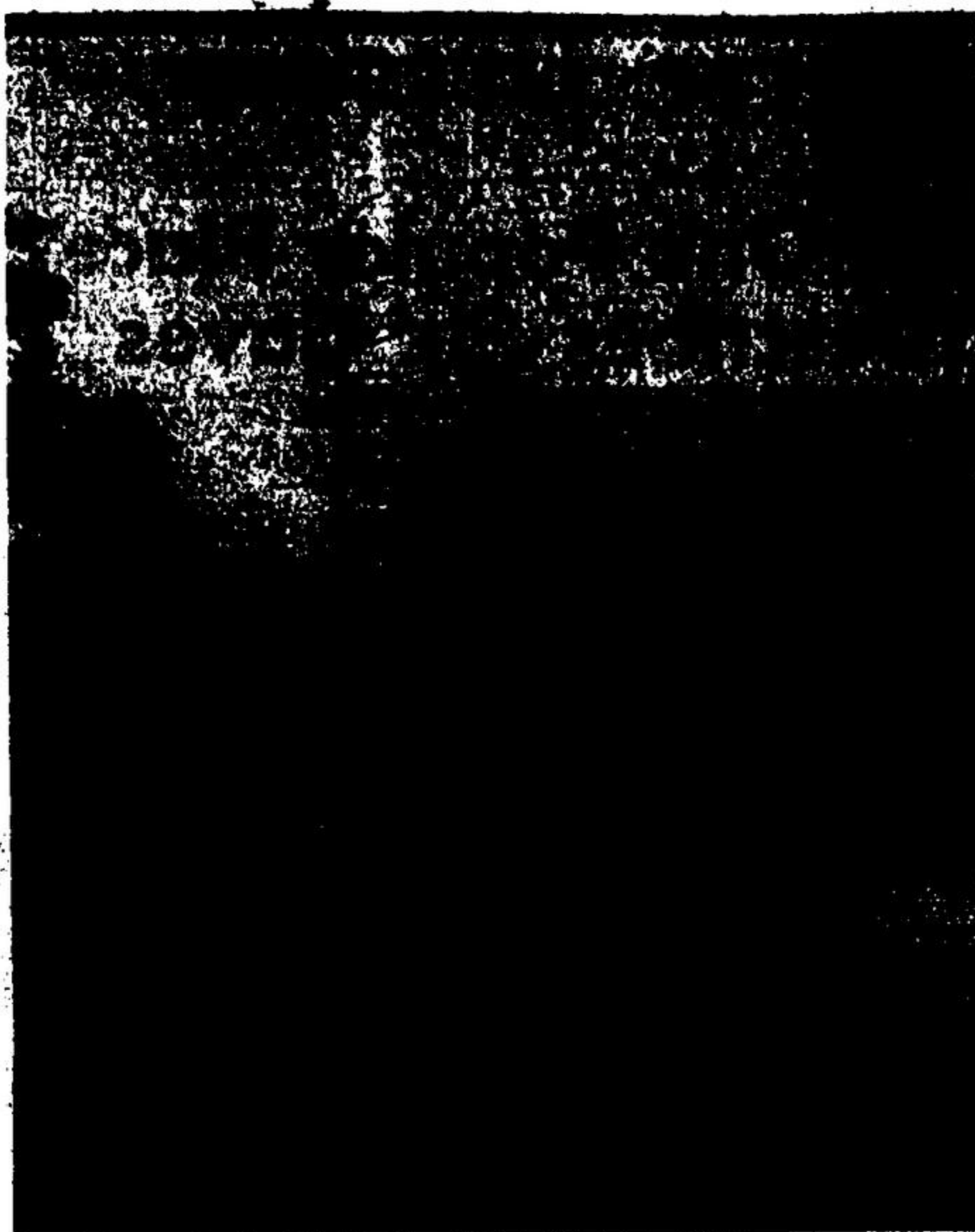
lost markets at home and abroad could be regained. In particular he blamed escalator clauses in union contracts that gear wage increases to increases in productivity.

Dr. Phillips' advice may be unpopular with some, but it is not unsound. As governments spend more, they must tax and borrow more, both of which restrict growth in the truly productive sector of the economy. On the other hand, tax reductions that would leave more capital available for investment could foster industrial expansion and extend development of resources. And the benefits to all, including organized labour, that could be gained through lower prices are also obvious.

"There are gangs of them digging for gold in the street," the country Irishman reported back to his sweetheart after seeing London for the first time.

He would find present-day Toronto even more astonishing. What with subway excavations, street-widenings, sewer-layings and other civic improvements, the place looks like one vast mining camp.

As a visitor observed: "Your city fathers are certainly leaving no stone unexplored and no avenue unturned."



—Photo by Esther Taylor

## "Squaw Summer"

## Sugar and Spice...

BY BILL SMILEY

If you can't give the old lady a mink coat this year, next best thing to ginger her up is a night on the town. All you have to do is sell a cattle beast, or get a hot streak in a poker game, so you can stand the tariff. The rest is easy. You send off a cheque for theatre tickets. The amount would have put a down payment on a small home, in the not-so-distant past.

Naturally, your wife hasn't a stitch to wear. It will do you no good to rumble: "What's the matter with that black dress?" It turns out that the black dress is not only two years old, but it's the wrong shape, the wrong length, and even the wrong shade of black. New dress and a fresh hairdo raise the ante to the point where you have to start eyeing a second cattle beast.

Then you make plans for disposing of the children for the night. Plans? They're practically blueprints by the time you're finished, and it would take Napoleon himself to read them. And you steam off to the city, leaving the electric stove on "low", the light in the cellar on, and the old girl's new gloves on top of the refrigerator.

We made one of our infrequent dashes into the bright lights recently, and, as usual, emerged like a couple of slightly singed moths, dazed, delighted and determined to do it again at the first opportunity, which will probably be about 1962.

Every time we arrange for a big night in the city, we plan to dawdle, live graciously, sip wine with our dinner by candlelight,

and arrive at the theatre calm, composed, and with that opise and hauteur typical of the seasoned theatergoer.

It never turns out that way. We don't dawdle, we hustle. We barrel down the highway as though we were in the Grand Prix de Monaco. Scramble for a parking place. Sprint to the Press Club. Choke down a double. Run to a restaurant. Gobble our dinner. Dash to the theatre. And gallop down the aisle just as the lights are going down for the third time. Halfway through the first act, I have to battle a massive desire to fall sound asleep.

Our last jaunt was no exception. But it's worth the effort, the money and the nervous strain to get out of the rut once in a while and live in the style in which you'd be living all the time if your grandfather had had some sense, and had homesteaded a section in the middle of the Leduc oil fields, instead of settling for that stony patch in Upper Canada.

We had tickets for the new musical, Camelot, which was having its trial flight in that new beer hall in Toronto, built by that brewer with the Irish name. You know, that place is harder to get a seat in than the Senate. The stolid burghers of Toronto are delighted with their new cultural centre, which many of them fought so hard to keep out of the city, because of its unholy connotation.

The O'Keefe Centre alone is worth a trip. I'll bet they could charge three dollars a seat just

to go in and look around, and sit for an hour or so, if they served refreshments. It's huge, it's opulent, and its splendid facilities are bound to attract superior entertainment to Toronto.

As for Camelot, don't regret it too much if you missed it. I enjoyed it thoroughly. But only because I am delighted by anything presented on a stage, from Sunday School Christmas concerts to the variety shows, all local talent, on the last night of the fall fair.

The new musical by the producers of the fabulous My Fair Lady is big and it's beautiful. But gorgeous costumes and striking sets can't make up for uninspired music and a muddled story which begins as a sprightly comedy and peters into a pallid triangle tragedy redolent of the soap opera. I predict the Broadway critics will have the hides of its producers.

However, that's their worry. I have enough troubles of my own. My leg is black and blue where my wife kept pinching me to keep me awake on the long, cold, dreary drive home. And she's still sore as blazes because she hadn't time to finish the lobster dinner she tackled just about the time we should have been heading for the theatre.

## Ken Trowbridge Heads Teachers

The annual convention of the Halton No. 1 Teachers' Institute took place at Toronto, Oct. 21. This year the inspectorate was divided and the teachers from the towns of Oakville, Georgetown and Nassagaweya were present. R. F. Bornhold is the inspector of these areas.

In the morning there was a visitation to the North York schools, where the teachers had an enjoyable time visiting different classrooms and discussing the school system in that area.

**Old Executive**  
In the afternoon the teachers assembled at the Crang Plaza Auditorium for a turkey dinner. Following a sing-song the 1960 executive was introduced, and they were honorary president, L. L. Skuce; president, R. McKewen; vice president, K. Trowbridge; treasurer, F. Brown; secretary, Mrs. S. Finley; urban representatives, Miss M. Scarlett and J. Cobrey; rural representatives, R. Gibbon and Mrs. A. Paul; special subjects, Miss F. Fedoruk.

The speaker was W. Wright of Wright Associates who spoke on the art of listening. He explained ten reasons why people are not good listeners and ways to improve listening powers.

Mr. Bornhold outlined the growth of the teaching area and the 1961 executive was then introduced.

They are: president, Ken Trowbridge; vice president, Mrs. R. Wigglesworth; secretary, Mrs. S. Finley; treasurer, F. Brown; rural representatives, Mrs. Noble and J. Watson; urban representatives, H. Howard and Mrs. J. Norton; special subjects, Mrs. B. Richardson.

## ...Dodging Round the District

BY ROY DOWNS

**MILTON**—Rates at Milton District Hospital were upped \$3.10 per day to a new \$19.90 rate, following approval by the Ontario Hospital Services Commission. The rate is for standard ward beds, and will be charged all insured and uninsured patients.

**BRAMPTON**—Police chief Keates and his force were taken to task by the town's police committee, for the continual speeding on Brampton's streets. One councillor asked for the use of unmarked cruisers as a warning to drivers.

**GEORGETOWN**—Because Malton Airport is so busy, private and charter planes may have to find other landing strips, and Georgetown should look into the matter, Councillor Ian Cass urged. Council agreed to write the department of transport noting the town would be interested in a small airport should the occasion arise. Grants up to \$100,000 are available.

**OAKVILLE**—Red Cross officials are studying setting up small donor clinics in south-east and south-west Trafalgar, after failing to obtain a quota of 400 bottles of blood at a recent clinic. One director noted the clinic is 900 bottles behind this year's quota and hoped smaller clinics in outlying areas might assist donors to give more.

**ORANGEVILLE**—Four accidents heralded the first snowfall in Orangeville last week and one car even rolled over on slippery roads in the area north of Orangeville where snowplows were out to clean away the first big blow.

**BURLINGTON**—A local woman saw a meteoric streak across the sky one evening and the next morning, her sons found what they thought must be the meteorite. The rock looked unusual and smelled of burning.

**STREETSVILLE**—The public school board has asked council for \$180,000 for school expansion in the village. The money is proposed for an auxiliary classroom and auditorium at one school, and additional classrooms at another. If council does not readily approve the request, it will go before a public vote.

**WATERDOWN**—East Flamboro township wants no buzzing, zooming go-carts. Council passed a by-law prohibiting the karts throughout the township.

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS

### BACK IN 1910

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Nov. 1, 1910.  
Engineer Hutcheon of Guelph was down on Tuesday morning striking the levels for the new cement pavement on the north side of Mill St. from Main to Park Ave. The pavement contractors are now at work on this section.

Considerable criticism has been made of the unseemly finish of the railing to the new Main St. bridge, old scumming and rough posts being used. In fairness to the committee, on streets and walks, it should be understood this railing was put up temporarily as a present protection and will be replaced with suitable metal railing.

Last Thursday a little lad was in the store of Nelson and Co., Mill St., when he inadvertently stepped back against a coal oil heater. The heater was overturned and the oil escaping immediately blazed up in volume setting fire to lace curtains and other goods. Miss Nelson, with commendable presence of mind, poured the contents of a bag of flour upon the burning oil on the floor.

Mr. J. R. Kennedy, then arriving on the scene from the cellar wearing a pair of leather gloves, carried the stove and burning goods out to the street. With the aid of passers-by and a few pails of water, the fire, which looked extremely ugly for a minute or two, was subdued. The loss was adjusted by the insurance companies interested at \$105.

A reverend gentleman from the east of the province, who was to preach in Acton Sunday and spend Thanksgiving with friends here, stepped off the train in Limehouse Saturday evening thinking he had reached his destination. He pluckily set out on foot when he realized his mistake and it was reported the strenuous walk and the bracing atmosphere of the grade were followed by eloquent sermons and a vigorous appetite at the Thanksgiving dinner.

Mill St. seems to have more than its share of telephone and electric poles.

### BACK IN 1940

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Nov. 7, 1940.  
The marriage of Miss Ruby Allen to James Ritchie on Saturday afternoon took place at the bride's home. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Allen of Acton and the bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Ritchie of Georgetown.

A Halloween concert was held at Lorne school, No. 12, Esqueping, on October 30. The children entertained parents and friends with a variety of numbers including recitations, readings, drills, dancing, ghost drills and verses, rhythm band, seasonal songs and dialogues. A feature of the evening was the spy apple guess with prizes won by F. Denny and Mrs. Wilmer Watkins.

More and more carloads of machinery are arriving and being installed at the Wool Combing plant. One scouring machine is 225 feet in length. New machines from England are now arriving regularly.

During the council meeting Tuesday evening, tenders were opened for garbage collection. After some discussion, it was decided to accept the tender from L. Waxman of \$900 for the year. The municipal garbage collection will be inaugurated the first of January and garbage will be collected twice weekly.

Acton public school board decided Tuesday evening during their regular monthly meeting to request council to provide police protection at the Mill Willow St. crossing. It was generally felt by the members this crossing provided some hazard to the street and some means of protection should be provided by the town.

Mr. Amos Mason has started construction of two new homes on his property on Alice St. Monday morning construction workers were busy at the site. The pond has been drained and some fill dumped there. A new course has been dug for the creek bed which will carry the water directly to the spillway. This leaves a fine building site.

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