We believe the facilities at the High School should be available to residents of the High School district. We agree that the first use of the school must be for educational purposes. After these educational requirements have been met, the facilities can then

handling of the outside use of the gymnas-

be available for other uses. We feel that the board can establish pol-Icles governing the use of the facilities which will both ensure the proper and reasonable care of the building and allow the residents and taxpayers the use of the facilities. The Acton Public School Board has been able to: set a policy governing the non-educational use of their auditorium: Two members of the Public School Board who have been on the board since their auditorium was built report

the board has encountered no problems with the outside use of the auditorium.

When the auditorium at the High School was built the board did not receive any provincial grants on its cost. The taxpayers of the district are paying the whole cost of these facilities. The interest being paid annually on the gymnasium amounts to over \$400-We believe this alone is-good enough reason for use of the gym by taxpayers.

The theory is advanced that the gym use would be in direct competition with the facilities at the Y.M.C.A. We believe that a simple board statement of policy can ensure this will not occur. The gym does not need to be in competition with the Y.M.C.A., the Legion, the Public School or the Community Centre: It will instead complement these oth-

The nomination meeting held at the High School was the first public use of the building - we suggest it will not be the last.

switch this Sunday when the town's telephone service is converted to dial equipment.

It's another step in the local progress of communication that has some advantages and disadvantages. It will, in some respects be faster, and speed the placing of calls to long distance points by means of the Direct Dialing plan. Like many others however we'll miss the operator's voice that has been handling the hundreds of calls for the dozens of years. The operator will be missed too, in the handling locally of the police and fire calls. No longer will there be a thinking human being helping you place your telephone call, reach the police or summon the fire department.

There are several new features to which we'll be exposed with the introduction of dial telephones. One thing is that we'll have to learn all our friends' telephone numbers all over again and they won't range from one number to four, they'll all be seven dig-

Probably the most significant difference In our telephene system here after Sunday's

switch-over, will be the fact we can call to Rockwood and Georgetown subscribers without paying a long distance toll charge. In effect this lifts one of the barriers that we feel has had a determining effect on the extent of Acton's business life.

Acton has had for many years one of the smaller telephone exchange areas. As the importance of the telephone increased it was a determining factor on which town area people chose a shopping centre. Those on the Georgetown line that included Limehouse and Ballinafad were naturally drawn toward the Georgetown business centre and similarly on the other side of the

This pattern may be altered but if it is it will naturally be in terms of years. In the meantime we will all have the convenience the new system will afford.

Sunday is switch over day. Its effects are immediate and far reaching, its advantages mixed with disadvantages, but it is a move long awaited as it completes the conversion to dial facilities in this general area. We'll be looking forward to dialing.

Part of Christmas Scene

From the Brampton Times and Conservator Many puriets and idealists bemoan the "commercialization of Christmas," hinting that the hucksters have besmirched the basic meaning of the great Christian holy day. In our opinion, the complaint is overdone and In far too many instances stems from a "-Scrooge-like attitude, born of pocketbook

If it weren't for the retail stores in Brampton, and the Chamber of Commerce with its Yuletide lighting project, would the spirit of Christmas reveal itself in the community until December 25 rolled around? Here as elsewhere throughouf Christendom, the overtures to Christmastide are most articulate throughout the commercial and industrial sections of the community

Perhaps it is well to clarify in one's mind the specified and secular aspects of Christmas, so mat reitter may offend the other.

First, and it must never be forgotten; the prime purpose of Christmas is to celebrate Christ's birthday. Concurrent with this is the more materialistic Santa Claus concept of the holiday, and yet through both events runs; one common cord: a time for giving.

Writing from London, England, last week, our overseas correspondent, McIntyre Hood, reports a "new look" at Christmas. A British medical journal quotes doctors as saying that "Christmas should happen more often."

"It is the finest tonic that human beings can have," he quotes. "Doctors have found Christmas is a time when wating rooms are empty and neuroses are lifted.

"We may suggest with some measure of confidence that Christmas in adequate dosage is more effective and with fewer side-effects than phenobarbitone as a therapeutic reg-

Aping Their Elders

It may be too harsh a judgement, but a Canadian recently returned from Russia says that in con-parison to youth there, youth here is saddled with "middle aged attitudes."

Dr. John E. F. Hestings, a Toronto Univer sity assixiate professor of public health, was telling a Turonto convention audience of observictions made on a six month trip through Europe and Asia. Wherever he travelled in the U.S.S.R., said Dr. Hastings, he found that young people are dynamic, purposeful "I frightens me," he went on, "to compare Russia with Canada, where young people, worrying about security and pensions, have middleage attitudes before they have been young. Until we instill the same feeling of purpose, the future for us is going to be rocky."

It would be easy to dismiss Professor Hasting's judgement as a generalization but, at least as far as the attitude of Canadians

is concerned, it is not too hard to find evid ence to support his opinion for instance, in the help wanted columns of our daily

newspapers, it is a rare advertisement that lists willingness to work as a requirement, and there is much less emphasis on opportunity than there is on security. To win a response, even in these times, employers seem compelled to play down the work or the pay and play up paternalism tertam phrases or cur over and over, as in these samples plock ed from the columns of a metropolitan daily Young man, 17-20, clerk, 5-day week, excellent tringe benefits. liberal program of tringe benefits and excellent medical and pension plans provided 5-day week, statutory holidays and vacation with pay, pension insuiance, medical benefits, etc. Group insurance, sick benefits, 5-day week Insurance welfare and pension benefits, age protoried 21 to

"The Calm Before the Storm"



-Photo by Esther Taylor

Sugar and Spice ...

BY BILL SMILEY

my doing. Every year, about the first of December, the Chief Engineer 'gets hallucinations of grandeur, and we're for it.

One year, it was a new sink Whoa, there! Slow down. Relax. in the bathroom. Translated, Get that frown off your face. this means I wound up with Don't look so strained. It's not a complete new bathroom a funeral or a wedding, or even which took me about two years a threshing you're getting ready to pay for. Another year, she for. It's Christmas. Remember? thought we'd sand all the floors. The result looked like I know. I know. "It's a try-Lake Superior on a choppy ing time for all of us" and day. One preChristmas, we got "Christmas is getting too, cominto the painting and whenmercialized" and "it's not what ever the family met at mealit used to he" and "we can't time, it resembled a war-gathafford all those presents" and ering of the Six Nations. "Christmas is just a big pain in

> On still another occasion, we had to build a chimney a couple of weeks before Christmas, (No. Virginia, it wasn't for Santa Claus to come down. It was for the smoke to go up, for a change, instead of just hanging there t Anyway, the man said the bricks were too well or something, so we wound up with about 8000 bricks piled, to div. in the

During these ordeals, the old Trouble'n Strife is about as easy to get along with as a cobra with a hangover. That's why I look on the annual Preject as a challenge. It we can get through a couple of weeks of this without anyone picking no an axi Christmas is a

When the last sourced the said.

United Church Women

Each year the Project has acted as a safety valve for the Old Girl. You know what women are like with Christmas coming on, normally. They run around in everdecreasing c.r. cles as they try to cope with turkey and tree and trimmines pudding and presents and pres After a couple of weeks of painting, or running around the brickpile, my old lady was always so whacked out that getting ready for Christmas was a pleasant change in company -

That's why I was a mite alarmed this year You see we're ying in a rented house and there's no outlet for that pre-Christmas project. The lady is restrained by law from ripping att at the wall paper or launching into a linefeum-laving orgy. All she can cois event longing v.

But I needn't have warred Unable to create warm, comtusion chaos and coon water tare in the house, she has gone turther affeid. To church & organist, she is facing her tind Constitues with all the cuita and special services. There's panie aplenty. That kid spends more time at church than at home. We have can seeming out our cary

But its a and there I we

W AN THE LEASE OF A P. S.

Here's the program three sertimes the day Nilete Christmas nemarks a margin a sound the street morning that the in the car and so has a set a stapped into place of the last. Souther they active court of splanter of paint is the Kontrolled Courses of the Controlled at their off I know that Chi somes water "With a session to the or see on earth and goodn't female the final about about about the and the kids are place of a discountry of the color of the fire of the color

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1941

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Dec. 18, 1941. Schools close tomorrow until January 5 - the longest Christmas holiday possible.

Acton stores are open every evening until Christmas. They offer you plenty of assortment and shopping time.

The constant selling of six auctioneers and spirited bidding of a hall full of potential buyers couldn't cope with the generosity of the farming community adjacent to Acton and of Acton citizens and so the community auction sale was stopped at midnight last night, to be resumed on Saturday night again. All proceeds go to the Red Cross and Acton and Vicinity War Service League.

Tuesday evening, Acton friends and relatives were delighted to hear Private Herbert Taylor and Private Pat Kenny broadcast messages from overseas to the friends back in the home town. It's certainly good to these familiar voices again. On Christmas Day, Private Norman Gibson will sing at Beaver Club, London, England.

The Lakeside Chapter LO.D.R. held a surprise shower at the home of Mrs. A. Young Monday evening in honor Miss Flora Savers, who is to be married shortly. Miss Emma Robinson, the regent, presided for the evening meeting and presentation.

Miss Grace Lantz, who has resigned as manager of the Bell Telephone exchange here, presented with an ivory and gold clock by the staff last Friday

Dublin Literary Society held their regular meeting. Friday evening. Mr. G. Somerville was chairman for the following program: piano solo, Margaret. The lots are leasted east of the Somerville; reading. Franks, Christmas recitation, Helen Somerville: vocal duet. Doreen Steele and Eleanor The Christmas spirit is abund-Ross, solo, Mr. C. Cutts Dins, antily manifest. Minimants are aid Ross and Fite Somerville seeking followed to a white conducted a stunt.

BACK IN 1911-

Taken from the lauge of the Free Press, Thursday, Dec. 14, 1911. Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Mc---Pherson of Alusku, who have been visiting Mrs. R. MoPherson for several weeks, left on Monday for Lima, Peru. Both

are experienced and intrepid

gold mining prospectors and in-

tend to do prospecting in South

Mr. R. D. Warren, the Liberal candidate in the election on Monday, made a highly creditable run and succeeded in reducing the majority of his opponent, Dr. Nixon, by about 70 votes from that of the last contest. Mr. Warren is one of the most desirable candidates ever nominated in this part of the county. He takes his defeat in a

manly and philosophical way. During the special meeting of council Tuesday evening, a bylaw was passed to read that all cigarettes, cigarette tobacco and cigars are not to be sold without a license. Mr. A. O. Beardmore requested, on behalf of the 300 employees of the firm, that an electric lamp be placed at the corner of Elgin and Queen Streets. Two hours were spent in a "listening to the respective merits of producer gas plants and hydro electric power.

The catalogue of the new books will be on sale at the Free Library on Saturday evening. The new books will be available on Monday.

Mr. J. Warren has had his land surveyed on his farm and it has been subdivided into building lots for a new subdivision. The lots have now been listed and anyone interested in the project may start to build a home for \$25 down and \$10 a month for the lot until paid for There is ample room for a good sized home with a garden GTR, tracks on Mile Street

The shop windows in town never looked more attractive Chrisman

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

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6.33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol), 858 a.m., 1133 am. 206 pm., 506 pm; 633 pm 8.33 pm . 1006 pm. (Sun. and

Westbound

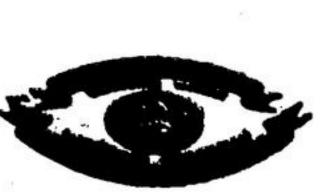
10.27 a.m.; 12.57 p.m.; . 2.57 pm. 5.27 pm.; 727 pm; 912 pm.; 1132 pm; 102 a.m. (Fri., Sat., Sun. and Hol.).

> RAILWAYS CANADIAN NATIONAL Eastern Standard Time Eastbound

644 a.m. to Toronto Daily except Sunday; 9.33 a.m. to Toronto except Sunday; 7.07 p.m. to Toronto Daily except Sat. and Sun: 8.01 p.m. to Toronto Sunday Only.

Westbound 8.30 a.m. to Statford delly exdaily except Sat. and Sun.: 7.814 A.M. to Statford daily a Sum: 12.29 a.m. to Street

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David R. Dilla Menaging Editor TORIAL OFFICE PHONE 600, ACTON

R. Hadrick and the character the executed of others too the

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(Intended for last week)

The annual meaning of theme

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school and over 20 members so

along a supply and per lakely

Belove the dance here M's

the neck" and "I don't enjoy

Christmas any more. I'm simply

worn out." I've heard them all.

Poppycock! Pittle! It's not

Christmas that's a big pain in

the neck. It's some of the so-

called Christians who celebrate

it - worrying, complaining, grab-

bing, sweating, pushing whining

- in a perfect frenzy as the glor-

For myself, I find Christ-

mas, and the weeks approach-

ing it, a demanding but ex-

hilarating experience Pach

Christmas season, around our

house, spresents a challenge

that brings out the best in me

And don't anybody please to

mark that the best is none for

The reason is that each year

about the time other people are

wrapping gifts and addressing

Christmas cards we are up to our

cats in a Donnestic Project for

some reason we become anoth

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before the testive season. It's not

ious day approaches.

vice president. Mrs. Co. Phonias measurer Mrs. I. Henry Nov. et ary Mrs. R. Milyan, Mrs. W. Bewar wal by the new leader of the Mission Band

Man diamer Mrs. H. Bry hast in devotions and confinered a the Christmas program of earlies and Mrs. I Henry taking This The meeting closest with prayer hi Mrs H. Hhth.

S.L Staff Maste

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