

BY BILL WALLEY

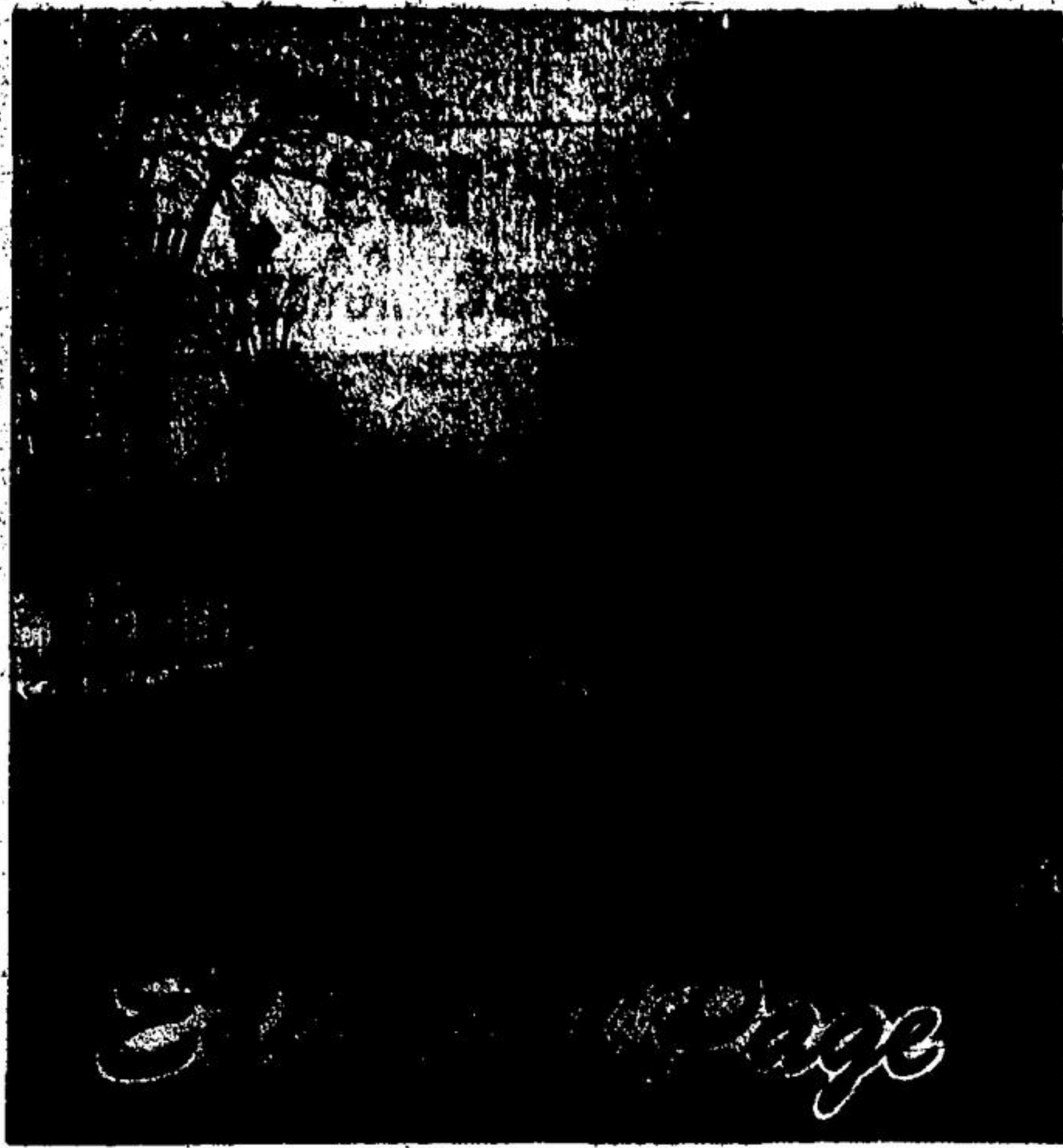


Photo by Esther Taylor

To Observe and Record . . .

During a year representatives of newspapers attend hundreds of meetings.

Quite simply, the representative of a newspaper is there to observe and record.

We don't have too much trouble around here with this but every once in awhile it seems to become peculiar.

Now most representatives of the press are responsible people and if discussions concern property purchase or new industry negotiations that could be jeopardized by premature publication, the press generally co-operates in delaying publication.

The press has no special privileges not available to the public. The press can only attend meetings to which the public is invited.

Personal Responsibilities . . .

Is popcorn a menace? Not really, but a small enough child can choke on a piece and die.

Along with our general apathy nowadays toward accident prevention, we've developed an unfortunate reflex to rid ourselves of any personal responsibility.

Similarly with thin plastic packaging, too, many otherwise intelligent people, when considering the problem of infant suffocations from this material say, "Some people just can't be educated."

Every parent can be educated, and for three years the most intensive educational program imaginable has been carried on in newspapers, on radio and television stations, in hospitals, pre-natal clinics and doctors' offices—in short, everywhere where there is a possibility of reaching mothers of young babies.

If a meeting is closed to the public by failure to give notice by meeting in a private home, or by direct resolution, the press is automatically excluded.

Recently we noticed where the Burlington Board of Education was conducting much of its discussion in private and in Oakville a meeting on the location of the new public building was closed to the public.

Citizens in all walks of life count on the press to provide them with the unbiased facts that develop at an event.

Next Monday, Canada's Second Victory Loan Drive gets under way and Acton and district, in common with everyone else, are making plans to provide the funds to buy tools to bring peace.

Back in 1912

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Feb. 8, 1912.

Mr. R. Johnston has disposed of his hardware store to his brother-in-law, James Symon, who takes possession after stock taking.

Mr. John McNabb, who left the employ of the late Hugh Mann to go to the north-west 12 years ago, made his first return visit to Acton this week.

Some of the flat-roofed buildings are carrying quite a load of snow, from which there is likely to be danger if we get rain.

Bob Cook, once the terror of Orangeville, was sentenced to the penitentiary for seven years by Judge McGibbon when he appeared before the judge this week.

The concert given last Friday evening in the town hall by the famous Canadian Jubilee Singers was well attended and nearly everyone made pleasing remarks regarding the performance.

During council meeting Monday evening, members passed a by-law approving the re-naming of John Hays as municipal office and assessment.

The Acton junior hockey team played to a 7-1 win over a team from Guelph, Tuesday evening.

The storm on Saturday and Sunday was so intense that church services in many of the rural areas had to be cancelled.

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Back in 1942

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Feb. 12, 1942.

In spite of a small crowd that night, the ice carnival was a big success and quite successful.

The basketball league formed at the Y.M.C.A. under the capable instruction of secretary Johnnie Gray is developing into quite an interesting event.

The return hockey match between St. Joseph's Church, Acton and Holy Cross Church, Georgetown, was played in Georgetown on Thursday night, resulting in a 1-1 score.

Last weekend's storm certainly caused a great traffic tie-up and those who didn't travel were glad they didn't.

During the monthly meeting of the Rotalong W.I., it was learned that 13 quilts had been completed during the month of January and they will be sent to Rockwood Red Cross and the Salvation Army in Guelph.

This week, a watch was shown to the Free Press which was owned by the late J. E. K. Cutts and purchased by him October 2, 1869, just two years after Confederation.

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Just skip random thoughts this week. I'm too depressed to write a regular column.

I'm a staunch supporter of royalty, but I'll go along with the British press in the latest verbal spanking it has given to Princess Margaret and young Tony what's-his-name.

Ottawa Comes Through With Sewage Loan

The Federal Government has approved a loan of \$17,904 to the Town of Georgetown to assist in the construction of a sewage treatment plant.

The announcement was made by Alexander Best, M.P. for Hinton, on behalf of the Hon. David J. Walker, Minister responsible for the operations of the Federal Housing Agency, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Made under Part VI-B of the National Housing Act, the loan is for a term of 30 years with interest at 5 1/8% per annum.

Georgetown recently completed a new sewage treatment plant. The N.H.A. loan will assist in the construction of approximately 1,000 feet of 8" diameter force-main and the construction of a sewage pumping station, including pumps and appurtenances.

Under Part VI-B of the National Housing Act, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation may make a loan to a municipality, or to a municipal sewerage corporation, for the purpose of assisting in the construction or expansion of a sewage treatment project.

For work completed on or before March 31, 1963, CMHC may forgive repayment of 25% of the principal amount of the N.H.A. loan and 25% of the interest that has accrued or has been paid in respect to the loan as of the date of completion of the project.

Association Panel On Soil and Crop

Fred Nurse, Georgetown, was a member of a panel discussion held in Toronto at the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association annual meeting, held January 24 to 26.

The conference this year was dedicated to crops, soils and the men who live by them.

James Barry, Galt, will represent Wellington, Waterloo and Halton counties during 1962, as a director of the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association.

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NEWS AROUND THE DISTRICT

OAKVILLE—A building that has been standing an estimated 130 years has been sold and will be demolished to make way for a bank parking lot.

BURLINGTON—Following their appeal against the recent Burlington mayoralty election, a group headed by John Thill and Frank P. Chapple have formed a permanent committee to "carry out the wishes of misused property owners and to correct conditions at the polls" and "act in a supervisory capacity as a representative of the ratepayers in general".

GEORGETOWN—The Georgetown Volunteer Ambulance Service is worried about accepting the O.P.P. calls to accidents on Highway 401 in the Hornby district, because when the ambulance is away on these trips, the town is left without adequate ambulance protection.

STREETSVILLE—In recognition of her outstanding service to the community, Mrs. Helen Martin has been chosen "Citizen of the Year." A resident since 1948, Mrs. Martin convened the Red Cross and operated the blood donor clinics, and organized the first cancer society, as well as running her own home, working in her husband's drug store and belonging to the Presbyterian Church and Eastern Star.

MILTON—Plans are being formulated for Milton's annexation of outlying lands, due to a shortage of industrial sites within the present town. A preliminary report released last week showed the town considering annexing 1,100 acres to the west that would provide a residential area for 12,000 and an industrial area that could provide employment for 6,000.

Halton Holstein Club Elects New Officers During Meeting

J. C. Marshall was elected president of the Halton Holstein Club at their recent annual meeting. The meeting, held on Thursday, January 18, in Palermo Hall, was under the chairmanship of the 1961 president, T. H. McGee.

Guest speaker Dr. J. C. Rennie, Animal Husbandry Department, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, addressed the group on the use of production records in herd improvement.

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PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

Professional Directory and Travellers' Guide listing various services: Medical (Dr. W. G. C. Kenney, Dr. D. A. Garrett, Dr. Robert D. Buckner), Dental (Dr. H. Leib, Dr. A. J. Buchanan), Appraising and Insurance (F. L. Wright), Legal (C. F. Leatherland, Q.C., A. Braida, B.A.), and Travellers' Guide (Gray Coach Lines, Canadian National Railways).