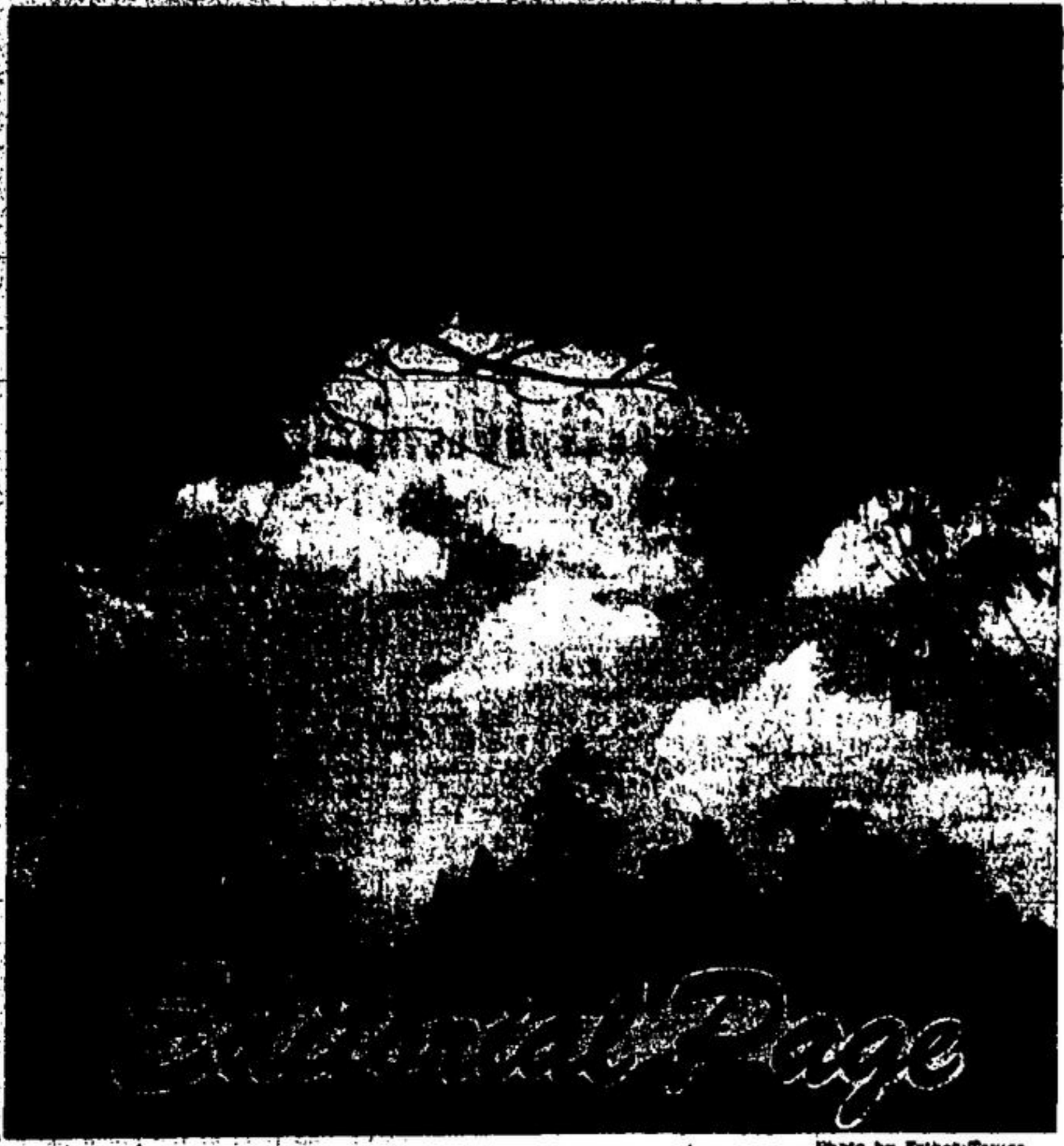


"After the Rain"



—Photo by Esther Taylor

Wanted — Bold, Imaginative Leadership...

We think the Parks Board has made a wise decision in recommending to council a separate committee be established to operate a Community Recreation Program. While a recreation committee and the Parks Board will have areas of mutual interest, it is only to be expected that both activities will benefit through concentrating and specializing in their own fields of interest and responsibility.

Our interpretation of the proposed division of responsibility will see the Parks Board continue the administration, maintenance, planning and development of the Parks. The Board would also be responsible for the maintenance, planning and development of the Community Centre and arena.

As we envision the Recreation Committee, its objective would be to plan and assist in the development of a year-round, community-wide program for all citizens.

One of its areas of influence will, of course, be the Community Centre arena where it will schedule and operate the facilities for the optimum benefit of all. In the park during the summer we hope they can organize a summer program, using vacationing students as supervisors and instructors.

Of course, there are many other ways in which the committee can be influential, from assistance in organizing activity groups on any subject, from bridge, to chess, to night school, through square dancing and stamp collecting.

Not Crying Wolf...

It is a rule of thumb that if taxation takes more than a third of national income, the country is headed for financial trouble. Many businessmen and economists have been trying to impress that point on the public consciousness for most of the past decade. As it has turned out, they were not crying wolf. Other factors contribute to the present fiscal crisis, of course, but it is significant that for the past two years taxation has been above the one-third mark of national income.

Figures issued by the Bureau of Statistics place national income for 1961 at \$27,913,000,000. Taxes collected by the three levels of government totalled \$9,897,000,000 or 35.5 per cent of national income. In the previous year the tax take was 34.3 per cent of national income, in 1959 it was 32.9 per cent. In 1949 it was 28.5 per cent. Nor do these figures tell the whole story: there are deficits at all three levels of government and total spending is far higher than total tax revenues.

Since all this information is published in the national accounts, it may seem surprising that the average person has remained

unaware that taxation takes such a large part of the country's income. Probably the answer is that although the public pays the entire bill for government spending, most of us think of taxation only in terms of direct levies — such as the personal income tax deducted from the pay envelope, the property tax paid on a house or a farm, the retail sales tax that is tallied in at the store's cash register.

These direct taxes on individuals are substantial enough. Through them, last year, municipal and provincial governments collected \$372,000,000 and the federal government another \$2,132,000,000. But even that total of \$5 billion was only one-quarter of the total of all taxes we paid to all governments.

The taxes we know we pay are only a part of all the taxes we pay, and all the taxes we pay are only a part of what governments spend. As individuals, we realize that we can neither spend nor borrow our way to prosperity. The need now is to make politicians understand that we understand that the country cannot do it either.

The second requirement for the recreation program is an experienced, capable, full-time director. Without someone to develop, organize and carry out the program envisioned by the committee, the program can not be successful.

Now that the decision has been made to implement the Recreation Committee, we hope no time will be lost in making the appointments to the committee so the winter program can be organized now.

Their only reward is going to be the satisfaction they have from knowing they have tried their best.

To accomplish this great plan we see two major requirements. The first is a group of citizens anxious to serve on a Recreation Committee. What we need is a bold group with ideas, with imagination, conviction and perseverance. We need citizens who are prepared to devote some time to the task, who can accept setbacks and can bounce back with another suggestion or plan when something doesn't go according to plan. We need citizens who are happy and willing to accept constructive criticism, but who are also prepared to hear the less desirable criticism.

We need citizens to serve with only one objective, to do the best job possible, not because they represent a group or organization or are looking for personal popularity.

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THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Back in 1942

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, July 30, 1942. The home of Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Ricketts, Guelph, was the scene of a pretty wedding when their only daughter, Muriel Near Ricketts, A.T.C.A., member of the staff of Acton Public School and director of School Music, was united in holy matrimony to Charles Reginald Heard of Acton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Heard, of Blensden, Wiltshire, England.

Deputy-Reeve G. W. Murray of Exquisite township sustained a fractured back and fracture of the right heel when he fell from 110 boxes sent to the boys from Acton and district overseas in the latest shipment sent by Acton and District War Service League. These boxes cost approximately \$300. Each box contained tins of juice, a cake of maple sugar and a tin of maple syrup, a bag of candy, four packages of gum, box of cheese, razor blades, soap, shaving cream, date bread, socks and handily handkerchiefs. The league also passed a resolution of appreciation to the Force Electric Products for their help in making up the package.

The Evening Argus of Brighton, England, recently carried a photograph of the Lorne Scouts with their colors in a march past in the South-Eastern Command.

Rev. Forbes Thomson officiated at a quiet wedding at Knox Church, Manse, last Thursday, when Helen Mooney, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mooney, was united in marriage to Harry Otterbein, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Otterbein, Preston. The bride wore a dusty rose sheer with white accessories, her mother's pearls and a corsage of butterfly roses and bouvardia. A reception was held at the home of the bride's parents.

The gravest moment of Russian history is at hand. The Nazi High Command is exerting a million-man pressure against them. This is the bloodiest crisis of the whole war.

In the face of widespread Allied clamoring for a second front, Berlin is showing signs of nervousness.

Be sure to buy War Saving Stamps.

Numerous complaints are circulating about a band of gypsies camped near Rockwood.

Back in 1912

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, July 25, 1912. The idea held by the German army is a model for all others, and is far stronger than all others, is challenged by Hilaire Belloc, member of the English parliament and critical writer.

Ontario is being depleted of men and money by the settlement of the great west. However, there is showing the tremendous strides the country is taking.

Postmaster Matthews is making preparations to clear the site for the new government building. The barn, stable and woodshed in rear of the post office will all be torn down. The store occupied by R. Noble's flour and feed business will be removed to the southerly line of the property and turned to face on Willow St.

The present post office building will be moved to the east side of the property, beside the barber shop. This is now Holchen's bakery.

It is expected that all the buildings now under course of erection at the Provincial Prison Farm at Guelph will be completed by November, 1913, after which time the Centre Prison of Toronto will be closed.

The piers for the big railway bridge across the valley between the factories are being constructed.

It is hoped by both farmers and businessmen that the Hydro-Electric power will be brought in early enough to start a chipping mill in Acton this fall.

Mr. H. T. Arnold has invented and patented a new cuff protector which he will use on his celebrated gloves and mitts.

A large number from Acton attended the Drummer's Snack at Georgetown on Friday and Saturday. The concert on Friday evening was enjoyable but the proceedings on Saturday were not of a particularly attractive character.

A new chief constable, building and plumbing inspector has been appointed in Oakville. Salary \$900.

James McIntosh, the Scotch laborer who fell under the wheels of a freight train at Norval, is not dead as we stated last week.

Another wedding or two, but don't say a word about it as it is supposed to be on the q.t.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

OAKVILLE — Replacement of existing street lights on Chisholm St. E. in Bronte was ordered by council. Public pointed out two assaults took place in this area where street lighting is very poor. The lights will be replaced by a new type, and more will be added.

GEORGETOWN — The town needs a piper to help out with a rat problem. Rats are believed coming from neighboring business places to the Prince Charles Drive area, and a resident claims they're a menace to children. Council ordered an investigation by the works superintendent.

BURLINGTON — At the Elizabeth Gardens area in the town's lower east end, a 5,300 increase in population by 1967 is forecast by planning director R. E. Roberts. "There are 650 registered lots not built on," he explained, and it is expected most will be covered with homes five years from now.

BRAMPTON — Major improvements to Highway 10 in the Brampton vicinity have been announced, to begin later this year. The road will be widened to four lanes from the north limits of Brampton to the junction with Highway 7, and will be reconstructed north from Highway 7 to Victoria.

MILTON — The town has passed two complete years without a traffic fatality. Police Chief Ray Andrews, who has been conducting a campaign to keep children from playing on the roadways, wondered how much longer the record can be continued.

Halton County's WAR ON WEEDS

By V. E. McArthur, Weed Inspector

POISON IVY For pure meanness, poison ivy has few equals. It is not the killer that water hemlock is, and it may not affect as many people as ragweed, but it does most strike when people are on vacation. It has been responsible for closing vacation camps in mid-summer. It has spoiled the holidays of thousands of children and adults, and has cost many thousands of dollars in lost time, control measures, ointments, medical and even hospital fees. Some people are so susceptible to poison ivy that mere contact with the volatile fumes from broken or burning plants may cause infection. Others seem to be practically immune.

Poison ivy thrives equally well in southern Ontario and in the rocky highlands of the northern vacation areas. It is not difficult to recognize. Think of Virginia creeper with its whorls of five leaves, poison ivy has somewhat similar leaves in threes. It is sometimes misnamed "poison oak" which is listed in American weed books but is not recognized by the Department of Agriculture in Canada.

Here are a few precautions to ensure safe and happy vacations, free from distressing irritations of ivy poisoning:

(1) Every child should learn to recognize poison ivy.

(2) Cottage and resort owners should eradicate poison ivy or post warning signs in areas where

Conservatory Exam Results Announced

Exam papers of Mrs. C. Heard took them Royal Conservatory of Music examinations at Guelph recently and the results are as follows:

Grade I — Marjorie Coles, first class honors; Sandy Patrick, hon. dist.

Grade V — Helen Hopkins, hon. dist.

Grade II Theory — Susan Heard — First-class honors.

On Television

Heather Millar, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Millar, Toronto, granddaughter of Mrs. Wesley Murray, Acton, appeared recently on Tim Talent Time program on Hamilton television.

Sugar and Spice...

BY BILL BAILEY

Isn't it odd how the weather changes with your age? Take summer, for example. The older you get, the shorter and colder the summer gets.

When a boy is ten years old, and school lets out, summer stretches ahead for approximately six months. That's probably the best age of all for a boy. He hasn't one single worry in the world. He doesn't care what he looks like. He doesn't have any work to do. Girls don't interest him in the slightest. He lives in a wonderful world in which the boundary between fact and fantasy is merely an imaginary line.

He can swim for hours, until his lips are bluer than his eyes. Or he can lie on his back in the grass and watch the clouds sail by. Or he can play ball in the burning sun when anybody else would collapse. He can eat an entire meal in four minutes flat and be out the door again. He can drink eight bottles of pop and eat four ice-cream cones without turning a hair. Ah, wouldn't it be grand to be ten again, when summer lasts forever and is always hot?

If ten is the best of all possible ages for a boy, fifteen is probably the worst. Especially in summer. If his parents are not well off, he has to work, and he envies bitterly the rich kids who can go off to summer camp or family cottage. If his parents have lots of money, he resents having to go to the cottage, where there's nobody but women and kids, and he envies the lucky kids who have a summer job.

At fifteen, the average male is acutely aware of (a) girls; (b) his complexion, which drives him to thoughts of suicide; (c) money, of which he never has enough; and (d) girls. Summer is pure torture for this bird, who invariably falls deeply in love with some brown-legged girl who is just visiting for a couple of weeks. His heart is broken when she leaves, and he writes her sickeningly sentimental letters for three weeks after school starts in September.

By the time the male animal gets into his early twenties, summer is once again a fine thing. His only complaint is that it's not long enough. He works hard and plays twice as

hard. He drives two hundred miles to fish, or plays thirty-six holes of golf, or dances all night without any noticeable decrease in stamina.

He has the world by the tail, a car on a down payment, three girls who think he's the meat, nothing in the bank, and little more in his head, except an excellent opinion of himself. Summer time was made for him.

Now, let's look at him ten years later. What? That's not him! Not that thin, haggard (or fat, flabby) fellow coming home from work on a summer evening with his shirt all stuck to him and the martyr's look on his face!

Watch him as he picks up the tricycle and the sand pail lying on the front walk, surveys the lawn mournfully, drags himself into the house and heads straight for the refrigerator. It's the same character, all right. Only now he's in what is known as "the prime of life."

That means he has kids, a first and second mortgage on the house and eight payments to go on the car. He's at the age where he's "getting established" in his career. In other words, he's working himself silly at his job so that he can keep up the payments on his house so that he can come home at night and work himself silly mowing the lawn, weeding the garden, painting the trim or building the patio. For a big entertainment deal, he can take

the family for a little drive and buy them ice cream cones. At this age it doesn't matter much whether it's winter or summer.

When a man gets into his sixties, summer should be a time of leisure and pleasure. By then, he should be able to take plenty of holidays, go fishing whenever he feels like it or just sit on the veranda and rock. In 35 years he has learned how to handle his wife and his kids or should have. His children have grown up and are living in the city. Summer should be a time of drowsy peace.

So what does he get? Grandchildren. Herds of them. It's too hot in the city for the little dailings, so daddy brings them up to visit their granny. For the whole, horrible summer they tear up grandma's flowerbeds, disturb his siesta, wreck his power mower and make him drive them out for swims on days when the sun would stun an ox.

Yep, the metfolks have their ups and downs in summer. For women, of course, it's different. They love summer. Whether they are three or 83, they go around with practically nothing on, reduce the cooking to soup and peanut butter sandwiches and have little rests in the cool of the house while their males are out doing battle.

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