

"The Gang's All Here"



—Photo by Esther Taylor

A Wise Investment . . .

"Education is the knowledge of how to use the whole of oneself . . ." H. W. Beecher once said. Such an admonition can apply to people of any age and any group. It is an admonition that might well form the basic reason for the annual night school classes in adult education.

Acton is fortunate that willing workers maintain the interest and enthusiasm to arrange night school classes in a variety of subjects most interesting to the local citizens.

The Night School classes in Acton continue to find interest among sufficient people to permit their continuation. Over in Georgetown the classes were disbanded when interest fell below the requirements.

There is nothing to equal the thrill of newly acquired skills and the pride of accomplishment that making new items can produce. In earlier times, adult educational programs were primarily designed as a continuation of earlier formal training. Today of course the field has been broadened to include an ever-increasing variety of subjects.

This enrichment of the adult education program is designed to assist everyone regardless of any previous formal training.

New crafts and new skills that are learned by dozens each year at the Acton Night School open up whole new avenues of interest. This is vital as the trend of modern living leads to greater leisure through automation and demand.

One night a week on which dozens of people from Acton and district seek new skills is a good investment of their time and of the facilities that the District High School provides. It is encouraging that the modern school building can be used for adult education as well as the normal day classes.

Those who are interested would be wise to study the classes offered and participate in those in which they have an interest. A broader knowledge and newly-acquired skill will never burden those who invest in this adult program of education.

Preserving the Past . . .

A suggestion that the Canada Council provide funds to microfilm the back files of all weekly newspapers in Canada was made at the recent Winnipeg convention of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association.

The idea has merit. Nowhere has the history of Canada been written in greater detail than in the pages of the weekly newspapers of the country. Early papers followed development from east to west and the loss of some of those early issues could put irreplaceable gaps in the historical fabric of the country.

From our own point of view we have no objection to preserving the files of this newspaper. They take up considerable space but their value far exceeds the value of space. They provide us with historical facts that can be gleaned from no other source.

The point that concerns us the most is the danger of loss or damage to the files that

would make them worthless. Age naturally tends to deteriorate the papers and copies of 75 or more years ago cannot be expected to retain forever their original flexibility.

We are fortunate in having files that go back to the beginning of this paper. They are a treasure of information about the town, the area and indeed the county. If they are ever lost through fire or natural deterioration it will be a sad result.

Microfilming the past issues is not cheap. When it is considered that there are perhaps 50,000 pages to be recorded the magnitude of the task is brought more sharply in focus. Perhaps the Canada Council might, in its wisdom, microfilm the oldest papers first and continue, that at least the files of greatest age could be preserved.

It will be too late to preserve the files after the damage and loss has taken its continuing toll and immediate action should certainly be considered.

Editorial Briefs . . .

Don't keep forever on the public road, going only where others have gone. Leave the beaten track occasionally and dive into the woods. You will be certain to find something you have never seen before. Of course, it will be a little thing, but do not ignore it. Follow it up, explore all around it, one discovery will lead to another, and before you know it you will have something worth thinking about to occupy your mind. All really big discoveries are the results of thought. —Alexander Graham Bell.

She was gossiping on the telephone when she heard the garbage man outside.

Dashing to the back door, hair in curlers, cream all over her face, wrinkled bathrobe, she asked: "Am I too late for the garbage?" Taking one quick glance, the garbage man replied, "No ma'am, just 'jump right in.'"

Bank robbers must be a frustrated lot. So often all they get is cash, which in these credit-conscious days is awfully hard to pass.

Unless, and until the evolutionists produce incontrovertible evidence to the contrary, most of us will continue to believe man descended from man.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Back in 1942

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Sept. 10, 1942.

Acton Public School reopened on Tuesday morning and while all the teachers were on hand, full enrollment was not made on the first day. Yesterday, 313 pupils were enrolled. The class of beginners numbered 42.

Manufacture of Ontario motor vehicle license plates has been ordered stopped by the federal steel controller in the interests of conserving steel for war industries. As a consequence, with 400,000 plates of steel already manufactured at Guelph Reformatory, any needed balance will have a plate made of some other material.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Cameron Leishman, Acton, was the scene of a pretty military wedding Saturday afternoon when Airwoman Hazel Gertrude Drey was united in marriage to Corporal Allan D. Leishman of the Canadian Dental Corp.

Another Acton industry has found need for expansion and last week, ground was broken for a new addition at the plant of Baxter Laboratories on Willow Street. It will be a single storey addition of cement block.

Brampton police were able to locate a pocket case containing registration card, car permits etc. which ex-Reeve Amos Mason had taken from his pocket while attending Brampton Fair on Monday. It was of real value to Mr. Mason but useless to anyone else and naturally the owner was pleased to get it back.

On Saturday afternoon at four o'clock, a very pretty wedding was solemnized in Knox Presbyterian Church when Wilma Ruth Hansen was united in marriage with Mr. Clarence McCheyne Coles, both of Acton.

The regular monthly meeting of the Lakeside Chapter I.O.O.F. was held at the home of Mrs. Dan Taylor on Wednesday evening. The regent, Mrs. M. M. Leitch, presided. At the close of the business session, a miscellaneous kitchen shower was tendered one of the members, Mrs. Charles Heard, a recent bride. A dainty lunch was served.

Powerful new locomotives of the 6200 class have been added to the C.N.R. run throughout Canada and the first was seen moving through Acton the first of the week. Large loads of munitions and other war supplies are being transported.

Wilfred Coles is in charge of the kitchen staff at the Blue Springs Scout Camp while 32 patrol leaders are taking a summer course.

Back in 1912

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Sept. 5, 1912.

Sunday evening after church, Reginald Hall, a young Englishman, was having a quiet stroll when he met with an accident of a serious and painful nature when, at the corner of Guelph and Church Streets, he met a companion and stopped to have a chat. He leaned against the electric light post and unthinkingly, grasped the chain used to raise and lower the lamp.

Immediately, he received a current of the street circuit and was unable to loosen his grasp of the chain. After a vain attempt to release him, the companion ran to the power house and had electrician Snoddy switch off the electric power. This, of course, released him, but he felt the effects for several days. Apparently, the ground he was standing on was damp from the recent rain.

Word was received this week that an Erin Township resident shot and killed a black snake on his farm. The snake was reported eight feet in length and measured as big around as a man's leg. It was as heavy as any man could lift. There were two of them but the other got away.

The music of the school bell could be heard throughout town last Tuesday after a silence during the summer holidays. Children returning to school were all dressed up in their finery for the first day.

T. Klyn, an Australian, and D. D. Jacko, an Italian, both employed at the Acton Tanning Company works, escaped certain death while visiting in Guelph last weekend. Apparently, the two men had been visiting friends in Guelph and went out for a walk during the afternoon in a rainstorm. When they reached Allen's Bridge, the westbound train from Toronto was nearing the crossing and the warning bell was ringing.

An eyewitness of the scene reported the two men, holding umbrellas, walked directly into the baggage car, after the engine and tender had passed in front of them. Mr. Klyn received a broken jaw and his teeth were knocked out when a piece of splinter from the baggage car struck and lodged in his jaw. Mr. Jacko was dazed by the blow and wandered around for some time before being found. Both were fortunate they were not killed.

An Ottawa man who shot himself while passing through Acton on the morning train one day last week was removed in Brampton and taken to the funeral parlors for positive identification and instructions for burial.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

BURLINGTON — An obstruction in the town's waterworks intake, somewhere out under the lake is costing Burlington 4,000,000 gallons of water a day in lost pumping capacity, the P.U.C. says. An investigation, which will likely involve the use of divers, was ordered.

GEORGETOWN — Joe Gibbons, who had served 13 years in the Office of Assessment Commissioner tendered his resignation to the Georgetown Council Monday night. Mr. Gibbons told friends that it is his intention to contest the mayoralty next December.

OAKVILLE — The town administrator, Kenneth Needham, leaves on Monday on a trip to take him to Britain, West Germany and Stockholm, Sweden. On his first trip to Europe, Mr. Needham will have a chance to see how municipal affairs are conducted in a number of cities overseas. He will be one of a party of 90 organized jointly by the Institute of Local Government of Queen's University, Kingston and the Ontario Municipal Association.

STREETSVILLE — Toronto Township Clerk's Department almost has to operate travel bureau to make arrangements for and keep track of "Conventioning members of the Council". Members of the council are on a convention jaunt to the Hotel General Brock in Niagara Falls this week. Councillor Roy McMillan is attending the Soil Conservation Convention in Washington, D.C. On Labor Day, Deputy-Reeve C. M. Murray leaves by air for England, Sweden and Germany, where he will spend three weeks and study European methods of government and administration. In October councillors go to the Canadian Good Roads Convention in Quebec City.

BRAMPTON — Deputies-Reeve Anthony Wilson read a finance committee report which recommended a site on Mary St. for Brampton's future city hall. Architect C. Tonks tantalizingly dangled the idea of a scenic riverside drive before the councillors. The development would not only provide traffic access to the new site but give Brampton a park-concept roadway in the heart of town.

MILTON — Use of the Martin St. High School as a municipal centre, got short consideration by Milton Council Monday and was promptly dropped after almost everyone suggested it might be a good idea but not "economically feasible".

Halton County's

WAR ON WEEDS

By V. E. McArthur, Weed Inspector

WEED PREVENTION IN LAWNS

The old proverb "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" can be applied to weed infestations in lawns. Residents who are establishing new lawns may use this "ounce of prevention" at little or no extra cost, simply by doing a thorough job of seeding. The net result will be a thicker and healthier grass turf which presents stiff competition to intruding weed seeds. According to horticulturalists of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, it is a good idea to follow nature's plan and sow new lawns in the late summer or early fall.

Why? Well, during this period, heat is not so intense and there are fewer weeds. What is more, the cooler weather encourages good rooting. Sow in the early fall so that the grass is well established before winter sets in. Well rooted plants will suffer less from drought and heat next summer.

Start Early
Start your final seedbed preparation about 10 days before the chosen sowing date. Stir the soil occasionally to destroy the weeds that have started. Roll and rake the area to produce a fine, level seedbed. On large areas, try dragging a plank back and forth to produce the same level effect. At seeding time, most of the soil should be as fine as sifted ashes. Do not skip on seed and be sure it is free of weed seeds. A seeding rate of three to five pounds per 1,000 square feet is best when Kentucky blue grass forms a high percentage of the mixture. Sow half the seed over the entire area. Then seed the rest at right angles to the first.

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Roll and Rake
After seeding, rake the soil lightly to cover the seed to a depth of ¼ to ½ inch. Rake in the area to produce a fine, level seedbed. A light covering of screened topsoil may be applied as an alternative. Rolling to firm the soil around the seed will encourage uniform germination. Be sure that the roller is dry, or else some seed may be picked up and wasted. Roll again after the grass germinates and after the first cutting.

Watering? Use a fine spray. Be careful not to wash away seed. Keep the area uniformly moist, but not saturated.

Sugar and Spice . . .

BY BILL BAWLEY

This is the finest time of the year for Canadians. Collectively and individually, we are as happy as hogs when we clamber out of the scramble of summer and into the sweetness of September.

Who wouldn't be a school teacher during the first week of September? Those long, boring, monotonous two months of holidays are finally ended, thank goodness. And there you are, as delighted as Daniel in the lion's den, just chuckling with good spirits as you face 30 to 40 kids who are just bustling with health and helly, and who are all ready, willing and able to turn you into one big, quivering twitch in a matter of weeks.

Who wouldn't be a farmer when September rolls around? Cattle so fat they can scarcely walk. Golden grain up to your navel. Nothing to do but jug around to fall fairs. Not a worry in the world. Except that the bottom might fall out of the cattle market the day you ship. Or a hailstorm will arrive the day before the combine does.

Who wouldn't be a resort operator in September? Your pests of guests all vanished with Labor Day. Nothing to do but sit around and count the profits and plan the trip to the coast. Or count the 10 long months before there'll be any more money coming in, and plan a trip to town to see the bank manager and make a payment.

LIMEHOUSE

Engagement, Guests Newcomers in News

Best wishes to newly engaged folks, Miss Julie Mather and Mr. Jack Watson, who lives in Brampton. No date has yet been set for their wedding.

Mrs. Mitchell is with her daughter, Miss Doris Mitchell, Weston.

Mrs. Mills spent a few days in Toronto last week.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Len Scott, whose second son arrived at Guelph General Hospital on Wednesday.

New Neighbors

We welcome Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Donaghy and two small children to our neighborhood. They have purchased the former Vandermeer home on the fourth line.

We extend sympathy to the sons of Mr. William Gordon, formerly of Limehouse, who passed away at the Halton Centennial Manor last week at the age of 89.

Visitors

Mr. and Mrs. James Hobson of Detroit and Mr. and Mrs. Thompson of Chicago with the Pattersons on Wednesday, and Jimmie Hutchinson of Weston during the past week.

Mr. Peter Zadic of Pembroke, formerly of Guelph, with the Simons' a week ago, and Mr. Jerry Jamison of Chicago last weekend.

Mrs. Peter Buma of Bowmanville with her mother, Mrs. Janssen last week.

Two Place High In Physics Exam

In the top 20 per cent in Ontario in the Canadian Association of Physicists' prize examination came Elizabeth Force and Brian Barbeau of Acton high school. The winner of \$250 and top place was David Milne of the University of Toronto Schools.

Just two students from each high school in Ontario could participate and 400 entries were received. The exam was written in May in the schools and forwarded to the C.A.P.

Professor Harold Tull of Western University made the preliminary survey and chose the best 100 papers which were sent to Charles M. Carmichael, assistant professor of Physics at Imperial College, London, England. The exact marks were not issued, but the two Acton students were informed they fell in the top 20 per cent in Ontario. Their teacher was Bill Coats.

To insure an even job, it is best to sow when there is little wind.

Rake One Way

After seeding, rake the soil lightly to cover the seed to a depth of ¼ to ½ inch. Rake in the area to produce a fine, level seedbed. A light covering of screened topsoil may be applied as an alternative. Rolling to firm the soil around the seed will encourage uniform germination. Be sure that the roller is dry, or else some seed may be picked up and wasted. Roll again after the grass germinates and after the first cutting.

Watering? Use a fine spray. Be careful not to wash away seed. Keep the area uniformly moist, but not saturated.

Who wouldn't be a weekly editor as September dawns anew? Just back from the annual convention, where you dined and wined and whined with the best of them. Feeling like a skeleton and confronted with a mass of editorials and six obituaries to write, rather surprised that your own isn't one of them.

Name one lady who would not be a mother in the first few days of good old September. Gone are the dreary days of summer, when there was nothing to do but lie around in your lawn chair, trying to get tanned. Arrived are the glad some days when life begins at 7:30 and the hours, instead of dragging, are filled with happy little tasks right through until you career into bed at midnight.

Yes, indeed, it's a happy, happy time for one and all, and just to add a little extra fillip to your joy, there is the knowledge that winter is coming and your relatives don't visit you much in winter.

Then, there's the anticipation of a few weeks of nature's finest effort in the weather department, during the weeks ahead. A chance for a last fling at the trout, without having to clamber over an assortment of tourists to get near a stream. The joyous realization that the women have abandoned the golf links, and the fairways echo only to the tread of strong, silent, male, golfers, veins throbbing in their fore-

heads as they fight back the naughty winds.

There is the ineffable joy of knowing that the children are back under the benevolent wings of the educational and social systems that for the next 10 months, they'll be completely and happily occupied with homework, Cub Scouts, Sunday School, parties, music lessons and what-have-you, and that you won't have to take them for a blasted swim or picnic or something every time you show yourself around the ranch.

Oh, there's a certain sadness in the knowledge that summer is over, but that lasts only a day or so. Any red-biped Canadian knows deep in his bones that summer is not real, but merely a state of mind, that it has no more substance, no more staying power in this true north strong and free, than a pleasant dream.

Summer is pleasant for women, children and tourists. For men, it's just a matter of running in circles for 60 days, and getting not only hot, but nowhere. Come September, the average Canadian male comes into his own. He breathes a sigh of relief, gets that well-worn shoulder to that familiar wheel, and begins to enjoy life, instead of merely plugging about like a dart in a wind storm, as he does in July and August.

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COACHES LEAVE ACTON
Daylight Saving Time
Eastbound
6:33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol.); 8:58 a.m.; 11:33 a.m.; 2:08 p.m.; 5:08 p.m.; 6:33 p.m.; 8:33 p.m.; 10:08 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.).
Westbound
10:27 a.m.; 12:57 p.m.; 2:57 p.m.; 5:27 p.m.; 7:27 p.m.; 9:12 p.m.; 11:32 p.m.; 1:02 a.m. (Fri., Sat., Sun. and Hol.).

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

Daylight Saving Time
Eastbound
6:56 a.m. to Toronto, daily except Sat and Sun.; 7:38 a.m. to Toronto, daily except Sun.; 9:42 a.m. to Toronto, daily except Sun.; 7:37 p.m. to Toronto, daily except Sun.; 8:01 p.m. to Toronto, Sunday only; 10:20 p.m. to Toronto, daily, board at Georgetown only.

Westbound
8:01 a.m. to Stratford, daily except Sun.; 9:06 a.m. to Stratford, daily Board at Georgetown only; 6:23 p.m. to Stratford, daily except Sat. and Sun.; 7:16 p.m. to Stratford, Sunday only; 7:37 p.m. to Stratford, daily except Sun.; 12:59 a.m. to Stratford, daily except Sat.

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