

"In His Master's Steps"

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Sugar and Spice...

Back in 1913

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, Jan. 16, 1913.

The rink lesson is now getting his ice in shape. Game legs, wood and turnips are now coming in frostily with good showing.

At the meeting of Acton L.O.L., No. 467, in their lodge room on Saturday evening the following officers were installed: W. M. E. Scott, D. M. E. Cook, Chaplain; J. Kennedy, Secy. J. L. Smith, Fin. Secy. W. H. Smith, D. C. W. Hall, Tyler; W. J. Hurd, Lecturer; C. Moore, W. D. Smith, Com. W. Lee, G. Hall, W. H. Walker.

The annual tea meeting of the Methodist Sunday School at Ballinacree will be held January 24. A very enjoyable evening was spent by the audience that attended the concert given by the Stauffer-Coutts-Bain Scottish Concert Co. under the auspices of the Sons of Scotland last Thursday evening.

Hotels accommodation in Acton has been anything but good under local option. In Acton the travelling public has had to take pot luck.

The Mayor of Berlin (now Kitchener) in his inaugural address urged the people to prepare for a city of 50,000 people.

Owing to the illness of Miss Robertson there have been no school sessions in her department this week.

The cost of living has been going up in recent years and now we have the coffin combine to raise the cost of dying.

Yesterday afternoon Mr. E. McKinnon was delivering a load of cordwood on Mill Street and when the load was about half off, his team became frightened and ran down the street at a terrific pace. At the vacant site for the new post office, they straddled the Hydro Electric light pole which effectively stopped their career. The tongue, doubletree and front bob were badly smashed and the harness somewhat torn but the horses escaped injury. Fortunately for the lighting fixtures Manager Haviland had removed the lamp and shade a few minutes before to make some adjustments, and they suffered no damage.

The many friends here of Rev. and Mrs. Orlando Jolliffe will sympathize with them in their recent sad bereavement in the loss of their little son, who was shot by Chinese pygmies, Mr. Jolliffe who is a missionary in China, was a former resident of Rockwood.

Several have a gripe. Considerable excitement prevailed in Osrpinge on election day. The reeveship was contested by Wm. Sutton and A. McKinnon, Mr. McKinnon winning by a small majority. Mr. Barker was re-elected deputy reeve while Messrs. Jessop and Beswick were re-elected to council with Mr. Binje the new councillor.

LIMEHOUSE

Visits Make Holidays Gay Mark Ukrainian Christmas

Visitors: Mrs. S. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Les Hutchinson and Jimmie of Weston with the Pattersons on New Year's.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Eillette, Cathy and Mark, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wood and Jon all of Campbellville with the Bentons on New Year's.

Mr. and Mrs. Mac Anderson of R.R. 1, Campbellville with Mr. and Mrs. Glen Scott on Christmas.

Mrs. Dabriel and the Agnew's of Woodbridge with the John Givny's on New Year's.

The James Bloor's of Malton with the Ted Brown's for New Year's.

Mr. and Mrs. F. T. C. Brown entertained their family for New Year's on Sunday.

Masters Raymond and Tom Fogarty of Markham holidayed with Mr. and Mrs. Hill.

Ukrainian Christmas. With Mr. and Mrs. S. Woloshyn to celebrate the Ukrainian Christmas last weekend, Mrs. M. and Mrs. Andy Walagrucki and family and Mrs. Zdrill of Teulon, Manitoba.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Walagrucki, Mr. and Mrs. John Woloshyn and Mr. and Mrs. Pusyey and Sharon, all of Toronto, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Zdrill of Cooksville, Mr. H. Wier of Palermo and Mr. and Mrs. Ron McQuaid and little son of Kitchener and other friends.

With Mr. and Mrs. A. Inglis on New Year's were his mother of Acton and members of Mr. A. Inglis' family, bringing the household to 26 for the day.

These Arrive: Mr. and Mrs. J. Crichton and Jackie and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Scott, Joe and Stephen with Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Hansen, Glen Williams for New Year's.

Mrs. Ross and Mr. Joe Ross with Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Ross of Guelph on Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Thompson and Cathy; 4th line with relatives in Toronto, district for Christmas and Baltimore for New Year's.

Back in 1943

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, Jan. 14, 1943.

Down at the Acton Red Cross rooms there are a lot of supplies intended to help the Russians and provide comfort for their wounded. The materials are cut and ready to be made up but unless they are finished by the women of the district. These supplies for Russians are for those who have lost their homes, victims of bombing and other horrors of war. This is an urgent appeal for more Red Cross workers.

The annual venison dinner of Acton Branch of the Canadian Legion held last night at the Legion Hall had visitors not only from across the district around, members of all the armed-forces home on leave, municipal officials and many friends as well as guests. Guest speaker was Rev. Pickersgill of Nassau-gateways. The refreshment committee got a pleasing pat on the back from president George Musella.

The inaugural meeting of Acton Public Utilities Commission was held. Upon motion of J. M. McDonald and J. R. MacArthur, C. M. Hansen was appointed chairman.

At a special meeting of Acton school board the estimates for the year were considered. Increased salaries and other costs made it necessary for a slight increase in the levy over last year. The requisition from the municipal treasurer was for \$14,200 which is \$209 more than required last year.

It takes the younger folks to make discoveries. Just when it was thought the pond property belonging to Mr. A. Mason had been drained and was finished as a water storage place, ice was cleared of sufficient size to enable skating and some shabby, and fifty youngsters were enjoying it on Saturday afternoon.

Major Allan J. and Mrs. Buchanan spent a week's leave at their home in Acton. At present Major Buchanan is the officer in charge of the Dental Clinic at No. 1, Manning Depot, R.C.A.F., Toronto.

While several Acton factories are working on materials needed for the war, not one of the articles produced is used for destructive purposes of war directly. Materials for apparel, hospital supplies and machines and equipment used in making guns and ammunition are among the products supplied.

Rural mail deliveries were held up with snow-blocked roads several days the past week.

Vital statistics for 1942 show registrations of 33 births, 26 marriages and 22 deaths.

For the past 12 years the Free Press has always had columns of hockey. This year is the first interruption — no local hockey.

A popular query, "How is your fuel supply lasting?"

A hizzard is howling about the house! That man with the piece of chalk in each hand has just informed me that the temperature is 13 below. He didn't have to say anything had already given me the message.

These are the gray days of deep midwinter, when one is sorely tempted to get drunk, or take off for Tahiti, solo, or just wander off and lie down quietly in a snowbank.

There's only one thing that saves my sanity each winter. That is the certainty that there are seven months of exciting evenings of controversial conversation ahead.

Every winter I feel sorry for people in lush, tropical countries. What in the world can they find to talk about? How bored they must become with nothing to null over but low, high-backed chairs.

No wonder they're so emotionally trigger-happy, so prone to revolutions, just to break the monotony.

We Canadians, besides being the healthiest, happiest, richest and best-looking people in the world, are surely also the most eloquent conversationalists in existence. We are never so destitute of conversational gambits that we have to fall back on such hackneyed themes as art, the soul, love, or man's inhumanity to man. Never.

For six months of the year we discourse brilliantly on fishing, the boat, babies, the cottage, gardening, the car. The last-mentioned, of course, appears as often in our dialogue as diletto does in that of less favored races.

The January meeting of the Marion Rudd Mission Circle was held in Acton Baptist Church last Thursday evening. The meeting was opened with the singing of the hymn, "Break Thou the Bread of Life" and prayer by Mrs. J. Chapman.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by Mrs. G. Wagner and discussion followed about the White Cross work. Mrs. G. Ralston, Explorer leader, said that the children would be starting to make gauze squares which will be used for White Cross work. This will be helpful and give the children an interest in mission work.

Letters from Mr. and Mrs. J. Rudd were read about their arrival in India and were very much enjoyed. Plans were made to send another parcel to the Rudds, this time including tins of strained meal and baby foods for Barbara Jo.

Mrs. L. Hiley read the scripture, the 12th chapter of the Book of Psalms. Prayers were then given by Mrs. H. Freuler and Mrs. L. McCutcheon.

Mr. Gammon then gave an interesting talk on "Our Reasonable Service," most appropriate for the beginning of a new year. He closed the meeting with prayer.

Mrs. G. Harrop was hostess for the evening, helped by Mrs. J. Chapman and Mrs. H. Freuler.

High School Highlights

It seems that only a few weeks ago I was saying "It is good to be back again," and so I say again.

There is a lot to catch up on so without further delay I will get to details.

On Thursday, December 20, we held a Christmas Dance from 9-12 with "Little Caesar and the Consul" playing. With a good crowd out the Students' Council made a good profit. Then on Friday afternoon December 21 there was an assembly with the student council president Bonnie MacDougall as M.C. A good time was enjoyed by all and gifts presented to Mr. Hansen, Mr. Bryan, Mr. McKinnon, Mr. Spielsvugl, Mr. Anderson, Messrs. Tyler, Sr. and Jr.

Over the Christmas holidays the school hockey team started practice and from what Mr. Coats, the coach and manager said, we have a very good team this year. Their first game will be Wednesday in Georgetown.

There will be a basketball game for the boys. This is also in Georgetown, also a game here for the girls on Thursday.

In semi-playoffs for volleyball for boys Grade 13 beat Grade 9 2-1.

The sparkling lights that decorated streets and homes have almost all disappeared and the streets have returned to winter greyness. Too, had the lights couldn't stay on a little longer, without being garish!

The Vanishing Surnames

It may be because of the service-club rule about calling fellow-members by their given names or nicknames under penalty of a light fine, or it may be because of the growing informality of modern manners, but the use of surnames in ordinary life is noticeably on the decline. Perfect strangers, after their introduction to each other, will immediately get on a first-name basis. The interviewer on a television program will call the celebrity he has met for the first time by his given name and expect a reciprocal mark of intimacy.

There are some exceptions to the rule. One cannot imagine the brashest interviewer calling Sir Winston Churchill "Winnie" to his face, although "Good old Winnie" was frequently cheered in that style when he was the inspiration of the world during the last war, and it is doubtful whether anyone has ever dared to address Dr. Schweitzer as "Al." One explanation of the modern custom is

the equally modern habit of slovenly enunciation. Surnames are frequently unusual and sometimes difficult to pronounce clearly, while first names are not. The introducer may be unsure of his pronunciation, and is inclined to disguise the fact by saying something like "Betty Mumble, this is Harold Mumble," and Betty and Harold are immediately known that way to each other for the rest of the evening. If friendship ripens from the introduction or a romance develops, it is to be presumed that the surnames are eventually revealed. Issuance of marriage licences are inclined to be sticklers for formality.

Matters were different in the nineteenth century. Jane Austen's Mr. Bennet was so addressed even by his wife. The father of a family was entitled to respect and received a token of it in the formal mode of address. Nowadays he is fortunate if he receives the respect without the token.

Rare, but Not Impossible

Without announcing it as formal policy, the federal government included in its June austerity program a cut-back in the civil service payroll. No dismissal of staff was involved, simply a reduction of new hirings. Evidence of the effectiveness of the procedure is found in these figures just released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics: from July to August the total of departmental employees declined by 4,630 to 206,439, and payrolls dropped by \$856,000 to \$73,340,000. When employees of Crown corporations and agencies were counted in, total

number of government employees went from 356,580 in July to 351,013 in August, and total payroll from \$134,643,000 to \$133,594,000.

A cut of \$1,409,000 in the government's August payroll may seem trifling, but the cumulative, month-to-month saving will not be insignificant. And if the check-rein is maintained on normal staff turnover, the savings will grow month by month. To the taxpayers the figures will be proof that while economy in government may be rare, it is not impossible.—C.J.H.

This and That

The announcement by John Root, M.P.P., Wellington South, that Highway 25 will be extended from its present terminal at No. 7 Highway in Acton to Highway 24 at Osrpinge, will be welcomed in many quarters. The advantages to Acton will be self evident. The least of which, is the increased accessibility to a completely new area of Ontario.

With the introduction of the new Highway we feel the province would be well advised to widen the present highway 25 from Church Street, south to the town limits. At the same time the Highways Department is widening the road it would be an opportune time to install sidewalks in this area.

We would think with the proposed changes on Highway 7 at the eastern approaches to town it would be a good time to plan for the relocation of the junction of the two highways away from the busy Main-Mill Street corner. A possible solution might be the rerouting of Highway 7 through Acton. If an overpass was built over the C.N.E. tracks at Eastern Avenue (Ajax) by widening Eastern Avenue and a portion of Bower, a

highway could run parallel to the C.N.R. right-of-way and make a junction with Highway 25 at Main Street North. An underpass under the C.N.R. on Main Street at the junction would improve the safety aspects of this dangerous crossing.

In this issue considerable space has been devoted to the subject of conflict of interest involving the 1963 Council. While we do not wish to minimize the seriousness of the charge, we do feel that enough has been said. This week we are carrying the text of the charges made, a councillor's statement, and two letters to the editor on the subject. It is our opinion that all the pros and cons of the subject have been covered quite adequately. However, if charges are laid in court any subsequent proceedings will be covered as news stories.

It would appear to us that the subject is closed unless some taxpayer is prepared to lay charges in a court of law to have the matter decided. It is also evident council members are not going to do this, we are not going to do it. It is up to citizens themselves to either do it themselves or forget it.

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