

BEAUTY SPOT

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Sugar and Spice ...

50 YEARS AGO

20 YEARS AGO

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, April 17, 1913.

Another colony of foreigners has come to town to work in the tanneries. The group from Malta is domiciled on Beardmore Crescent.

The contractors for the electric railway are filling in the approaches to the bridge over Fairy Lake. A car of horses and 75 men are reported to have arrived.

A pretty romance is of local interest. Mr. R. B. Scott, who conducted business in Warren block and left some five years ago, left on a trip around the world. During the voyage he met Miss Mary Herdman and casual acquaintance ripened into mutual affection. It was evidently a case of love at first sight. They were married upon their arrival at Manila and continued on their interrupted tour of the world.

A bill was passed requiring the compulsory licensing of all drivers of motor vehicles that they must carry lights after dark and before dawn.

Two cars of electric poles from British Columbia, 65 feet long, which have been on route since February, arrived this week and are being delivered on Main St. These are for the transmission line from our transmission station for the section on River and Main streets to connect on Church St. the line to Terry Cotta and Georgetown. The other transmission poles used here came from Idaho.

Figs sold for 16 cents on the Guelph market Saturday.

Now, poultry keepers, it's time to shut up your hens if you want your cordial friendships with your neighbors to continue.

An Eramosa man was fined \$2 for furious driving and abusing his horse.

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, April 13 1943.

After several months of service overseas three men serving with the armed forces arrived back in Canada last week. Pte. Gordon Babcock and Spr. Sam Glsby of Limehouse were invalided back to Canada and are in Chorley Park Hospital.

Sergt. Max Storey, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Storey of Acton, was arrested back in Acton last Thursday. He is one of a group of six who have returned to Canada and will take the officers' training course. He has been overseas for 16 months with the Perth Regiment. Sgt. Storey says goods are not available in England even with coupons. His first call in Acton was to the convener of the War Service League Mrs. H. Malprie, to say how he enjoyed the smokes and pargels.

To keep the unit up to strength the Lorne Scots will conduct a campaign for more reserve recruits. Lt. Col. Bertram, Lt. Col. officer commanding, has made the appeal saying "If you can't go active, go reserve."

Miss Walker, public health nurse for Acton, Milton and Georgetown, is getting quarters ready in each municipality and getting the new program underway. Her equipment is being purchased by the local committee.

Gnr. Frank Kelly, Pte. Emerson Patrick, Lt. Col. Edward Elliott and Tpr. Walter Pokony have arrived safely overseas.

First woman from Acton in the armed forces to arrive overseas is Pte. Margaret (Daisy) Buchanan of the C.W.A.C. Traffic Officer Mason doesn't ride a motorcycle any more but makes his rounds in a new white Provincial Police car. If you have salvage put your card prominently in a window facing the street.

For Efficiency ...

This is an age of streamlining and the frequent looks at municipal services indicate that many of them can be handled more effectively on a larger population base.

It is for this reason the county level of government takes on an increasingly important role. Halton has pioneered county services in several instances and it appears possible this may advantageously continue.

Dog control is one of the subjects individual municipalities have been contending with for years. No single municipality, it seems, can afford the proper pound that legislation requires as well as the services of truck and employees. For a number of years the Oakville District Humane Society has provided the service in Milton, Burlington and Oakville and for part of the time in Acton and Georgetown. Most recently in Acton and Georgetown, a private operator has met the need.

Both arrangements now appear up in the air to a certain extent since the rabies problem has exerted increased demands on limited facilities. A centrally located dog pound, with a competent staff, serving the entire county and financed by the county, would appear to be another logical county service.

Already effectively co-ordinated, at the county level are the municipal fire departments that work together in the interest of prevention as well as for mutual aid. Whether any such similar linking of police departments is possible under the guidance of the Emergency Measures Organization remains to be seen. It would seem to us that all the police chiefs should develop working

Spring Cleanup ...

Acton Community Centre has completed another winter's successful operation. The number of participants and spectators who have attended activities there this season has undoubtedly set a new record, under director Jim Casburn the schedule of events has meshed smoothly and more groups have utilized the facilities. We feel that Jim, along with the newly appointed Recreation Commission and the Parks Board, deserve a great deal of credit for the smooth operation.

Driving past the new reservoir on Churchill Rd. N. we noticed the disappearance of the snow has revealed the residue of building debris left from last year's construction. A little clean up and landscaping in the area would improve the appearance and in all likelihood be a measure of neighborliness in an area outside the municipal boundaries.

The town crew have been able to start their street sweeping and clean up chores. The work done now in the early spring is appreciated by the citizens before they start their spring house cleaning. Roads where

arrangements, if they have not already done so, and perhaps hold periodic discussions, Georgetown, Acton and Milton are now using the county cells for a lock-up thus eliminating a difficult-to-maintain facility at the local level for very limited use.

With road building equipment among the most expensive items there could be advantages to county ownership and rental to municipalities. This has been in effect for years in a limited way. Perhaps county councilors might find a road paving machine and crew could line up sufficient municipal work to keep it busy. Perhaps the result would be more hardtopped roads and less maintenance cost.

In the welfare field the Halton County Health Unit and the Children's Aid Society offer services throughout the county. A county welfare officer in charge of the investigation and distribution of relief would round out the county program.

Then, too, the ultimate in county services might be a business machine exchange or service through which the municipalities might eliminate peak periods like tax billing time. Special computers might speed the preparation of those important slips of paper to the taxpayer.

The county level of government is increasing in importance. Within it, here in Halton, we have the broad population base on which many services can be operated in an economical manner as any city of 115,000. What it requires is a broadened vision and a willingness to co-operate by all municipalities.

The asphalt is breaking up from the winter's ravages have been repaired quickly and prevent a later extensive rebuilding program.

The take-over of Main Street North by the Department of Highways as part of Highway 25 has caused consternation in the minds of property owners in the area. We feel the department should immediately advise the property owners of any property needed for the highway and make the financial settlement. We hope a sidewalk can be installed at an early date. With an anticipated increase in traffic this road will rank with Main Street South as a dangerous area.

We think it's about time we had a by-election in Halton to fill the vacancy in the Legislature caused by the death of veteran M.P. Stan Hall last fall. Granted that a voters are now without local representation at Queen's Park. Contrary to all other expert opinion we don't feel the federal election is any indication of a great change in the fortunes of the conservative government in Toronto.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

MILTON - Despite an impressive lineup of political and prestige support, Milton Council isn't getting anywhere in its attempt to lower a proposed C.N.R. elevated railway bypass around the west and north sides of the town. They have the Liberal and Conservative provincial election candidates, the planning board, and the Department of Highways lighting on their side, but the railway has still not promised to lower the 25-foot bank.

GEORGETOWN - A committee is forming to work toward the beginning of a new park in Georgetown, to mark the town's centennial year in 1964. The park would be located in an eastern portion of the town.

BRAMPTON - Chingachouy Councillor Ron Weir's toughest constituency are dogs, or so he claims. He told councillors he'd like to see a dog tax and demanded bylaws in the new satellite town be painted. Council agreed to painting them with fluorescent paint, at \$60 a gallon. (Probably to help the dogs find them at night.)

STREFFISVILLE - The town has instruments and a band master, but no band. The Recreation Committee was asked to form one by former band president Jack Bailey. The town has had a band for over 100 years until it was disbanded recently.

BURLINGTON - If baseball groups want money for new playing facilities in future, they'll have to raise it by public subscription. Council has turned down a request to add \$2,000 to the recreation and parks budget for ball facilities. Of this, \$1,000 was for a new diamond to handle extra teams expected this year in minor ball.

OKAYVILLE - If Okayville Board of Education's proposed \$500,000 budget is accepted by council, it will mean a three mill increase in property taxes. Teachers' salaries make up 88 percent of the education costs with debentures another 16 percent.

COOKSVILLE - Within five years, a new university is expected to be established somewhere in Toronto Township (South Peel), to serve the Oakville, Burlington, Peel County and west Metro areas. No site has been announced, but Education Minister William G. Davis said last week it would definitely be in the township. A similar college is planned in Scarborough.

U.S. - Canada Relations "Tops" At Taylor Farm

An American citizen, Charles Lewis of Pennsylvania, commented on international relations. Monday morning when he played fire-fighting to help douse a spreading grass fire, his salary home at Mr. and Mrs. James Taylor, RR 1, Acton.

ROCKWOOD Murray Taylor Zone Winner

(Introduced for last week) Congratulations to Murray Taylor on the occasion of winning the Zone title in the Ontario-Southern Ontario and Rate Payers' public speaking contest. He spoke in the secondary school prepared speech class held at St. Mary's Ontario last Saturday. He will be competing in the Provincial Championships at Toronto next week. He was second in the province last year, and fourth the previous year. Murray is a grade 12A John F. ... Colleague student. Congratulations, Murray. Award Contract The Holman Construction Co., Rockwood have been awarded the contract by Eramosa council to supply some 10,000 yards of crushed road material during the season. Two tenders presented for the job were Holman Construction Co., Rockwood at 78¢ per cubic yard, and the Durham Stone and Paving Co., Durham, 72¢ per cubic yard. Sometime last week, a car,

BY BILL BAILEY

I don't know what it's like for all you folks in inland towns, but this is a rugged time of year for the housewife in these parts, near the waters of the Great Lakes.

Right about now our women-folk should be coming into their own. In most localities, the ladies, bless and praise them, are working like beavers, groaning like galley slaves, hounding their husbands, chastising their children, and generally making life unbearable for all about them—it's house-cleaning time.

But in this neck of the woods, things are different. The gals work just as hard, but just as bitely, and turn things just as topsy-turvy as their inland sisters. But nobody pays any attention to them. At least none of the males in the family do.

Only the few women with the foresight to get at their spring cleaning early in March get much reaction around here. Those who leave it until the ice goes out of the creeks might as well forget about getting any help, attention or sympathy.

Women carefully lay their plans to have the old man help them. Comes the time, she gets all the junk out to do the job; turns

around to call him, and he isn't there. He's a couple or 10 miles away, watching the rainbow trout trying to jump the falls, or muckling about the banks of a stream looking for speckled, or splashing about at the mouth of creek seeking some sign of the smelt running.

He arrives home about four p.m. Old lady has just washed the paste off her hands, brushed the cobwebs out of her hair, and put adhesive tape on the scrape she got on her elbow when she fell off the step-ladder. She's sitting down with a strong cup of tea, trying to tell herself to be reasonable, trying to muster enough strength to begin peeling the potatoes for dinner.

"Let's get at that job, kiddo," he cries faintly, his face glowing from fresh air.

"We'll never get that papering done sitting around drinking tea, will we?" As this is a family type column, I shall draw a discreet veil over the rest of the scene.

But this is only the first phase in the spring hardships of the lakeside ladies. They've almost got used to it, over the years. They realize that "Do It Yourself" is more than a slogan. It's a way of life. The real ordeal lies ahead.

This commences when the smelt actually start to run, and the perch are running right on their heels. The girls don't mind their men going smelting at 1 a.m., and crawling into bed cold and damp about four in the morning. They've got used to going down to get

breakfast and finding a 10-quart pail of smelt sitting in the middle of the kitchen to be cleaned.

They are not really dismayed about standing over a hot stove for a couple of hours frying smelt fumes, wrathing their faces, while the family works its way through about 20 pounds of the wee-crip-awnties like a school of porpoise cleaving its way through a gaggle of herring. This is routine.

But there comes a breaking point. After this smelt nonsense has been going on for about 10 days, even the old man and the kids turn a bit green when somebody suggests a "nice feed of smelt." And that's about the time it usually happens. One day the lady of the house answers the doorbell, and there stands one of the neighbors.

"Thought you might like a little treat," he grins, and steps aside to display proudly a bushel of smelt overflowing with uncleaned smelt.

That is the day the man of the house comes home from work to find his smelt net tripped to ribbons, his chest-high waders chopped into two-inch squares, sixty pounds of smelt rotting in a heap on the front porch, and his wife facing a gun, not a toy, but a deadly weapon, namely, a smelt.

Let's Play Bridge By Bill Coats

If you have been following this column for any length of time, you will realize that most of the hands I show illustrate bidding problems, not playing problems. The reason is simple. Most contracts, properly arrived at, do not present much problem in the play. The average bridge player has much more of a problem reaching the right contract.

I know several players who open 1 no trumps just to show 16 to 18 points. Now a 1 no trumps bid should show certain distribution as well, 4-3-3-3 or 4-4-3-2 being the best distribution but occasionally a 5-3-3-2 can open one no trump if the five-card suit is a reasonably solid minor suit.

Let's look a board number six from last week's meeting of the Acton Bridge Club. Dealer South. North South Vulnerable.

Bridge hand diagram showing North and South hands with suits and points.

The bidding: South 1NT, North 1NT, South 2NT, North 3NT, South 4NT, North 5NT, South 6NT. I was sitting North on this deal. Now I know that some of you are going to question my three no trumps response. My hand contains 13 points. South has advertised 16 to 18. Even at best the hands seem to have only 21 points between them. Now I never want to play an elevator trick contract when a time trick one will do. Hence with a strong minor suit I raise in no trump. Oh yes—honors do not count in duplicate so I didn't miss that.

Look at the difference in South does not open one no trumps.

The bidding could be: South 1NT, West 1NT, South 1NT, West 2NT, South 2NT, West 3NT, South 3NT, West 4NT, South 4NT, West 5NT, South 5NT, West 6NT.

South leads the clubs and spades as equally and opens one club. South knows that South has a strong minor suit. Even in short suit opening guarantees one honor in clubs and North has the rest. With an opening bid North jumps to three clubs. South shows his spades and North checks, indicating the spade king. South checks for aces and it north has none stops at five clubs.

South bids six clubs, two bids seven clubs. To sum up, there are two requirements for a no trump answer. Points and balanced distribution and one is just as important as the other. Your partner depends on you to accurately describe your hand.

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