

# THE GOOD OLD DAYS

## 20 YEARS AGO

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

Mr. Alex K. Mann's "epochal" word during the week that her brother, Spt. Kenneth H. Buck, is missing after air operations over Germany. While his home was in Owen Sound, he was employed with the Beardmore Co. here at the time of his enlistment in October, 1940. Three of his brothers are also overseas and another brother stationed at Brantford.

Mr. W. Coles has been appointed clerk of the division court and bailiff succeeding Mr. E. T. Thetford. He is a veteran of the South African and First World Wars and attended summer camp last year with the reserve army. His appointment to this position will meet with general approval.

The 100th anniversary of the Sunday School of Knox Presbyterian Church will be marked Sunday with special services. The guest minister will be the Rev. John R. Waddie of London.

More air activity was witnessed in the fields adjoining R. N. Brown's farm when a plane brought a pilot to take back the machine grounded the week before and came to grief itself.

Now more repairs have to be made to get the second machine away. Mr. Brown had rolled the land for the emergency takeoffs. It is said that airforce men have Brown's fields in mind in this vicinity because of the co-operation given them in getting the machines back in the air. This is three planes in the past six months.

The Victory Loan closes Saturday. Hurry, hurry! The soldiers were ahead of schedule at Tunis and Bizerte. Banks will remain open Saturday afternoon for subscriptions.

Tennis club officers are president Gordon Beatty; vice-president Florence Salt; secretary Reta MacNabb; treasurer Inez McLellan; social convener Frances Rawlings; team captains, Ladies' Dora Wood, men's Mac Symon.

## 50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of May 13, 1913.

A good deal more interest was taken in the by-law to raise \$5,500 for the addition to the school building at the election on Monday than was manifested when a similar by-law was submitted a year ago and defeated by two votes. On this occasion the by-law was carried by two to one, with 117 voting for the by-law and 59 against. The increased school accommodation is necessary for our growing population and required by the Department of Education.

Highly gratified with the success of the vote were the school board members C. C. Speight, chairman; Jno. R. Kennedy, Robt. Scott, N. Forbes and John Kenney.

Harold S. Nicklin and Warren G. Brown passed their second year in Civil Engineering with honors. Howard M. Black has passed his third year in electrical engineering with honors. Graduates of Acton high school under Principal Stewart, these young men are an honor to their home town and home school.

Brampton capitalists will build a \$10,000 skating and curling rink this summer.

Mr. Alex Mann has bought and moved into the house on Young St. owned by Mr. Vanatter. The brickwork and exterior work of the rebuilt Station Hotel is about completed. The new building presents quite an imposing appearance.

Miss Annie Oram graduated last week with honors from Toronto General Hospital. Messrs. R. S. Sinclair, Frank and William Savers and Jeremiah Bell took an auto trip to Detroit last week. Mr. Sinclair brought back a fine new Studebaker five-passenger car.

# NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

**BURLINGTON**—The town band is kicking off a campaign to raise \$60,000 for a new band shell, proposed to be erected in Central Park. The band will raise \$1,000 itself by the sale of booster decals.

**GEORGETOWN**—Long distance charges on calls between Georgetown and Brampton will be removed in May 1944. It was announced last week. This will add 15,000 telephones that can be reached by 9,000 Georgetown subscribers, without long distance charges. Calling arrangements with Acton, Huttonville, Snelgrove and Victoria will not be affected by the addition.

**BRAMPTON**—Canada's Cinderella of track and field, 18-year-old Nancy McCredie of Brampton returned home to a royal welcome, after shattering shot put and discus records at the Pan American Games in Brazil. A civic dinner will be held in her honor, to raise money to help defray her future athletic expenses.

**STREETSVILLE**—A 1943 budget totalling \$500,653, up \$43,000 from last year, means an increase in taxes for ratepayers this year. The rate will be \$4.7 mills for residential homes and 93.9 mill commercial-industrial. It means an \$18 hike for the average taxpayer.

**OAKVILLE**—Low-rental housing units for Oakville's first world war veterans, and senior citizens, is the newest project of the Royal Canadian Legion. Monthly rentals are planned at around \$45 and a provincial grant is available, but no definite dollar goal has been set by the Legion.

**MILTON**—A new Lions Club was officially chartered last week, when Graham Clipperton, district governor, presented the charter to President Charles Geary. Lions from neighboring clubs attended, and presented gifts to mark the occasion.

## Seek Lorne Scots

## Ask Ex-Members to Ceremony

Ex-members of the Lorne Scots are cordially invited to attend the presentation of the colors, ceremony and festivities which will be held at Caledon in October, concurrently with the World Playing Match. A representative of Her Majesty the Queen will officiate at the presentation.

Many members of the Peel, Dufferin and Halton Counties (Midland) Regiment served with other Canadian and Commonwealth units and are known to have dispersed across Canada and to other countries following demobilization in 1945.

If you are an ex-Lorne Scot yourself or know the whereabouts of one, please drop us a line if possible so that we may extend a formal invitation. States Lt. Col. F. F. Conover, Commanding Officer. Communications should be addressed to the General Chairman, Presentation Committee, Lorne Scots Regiment, The Armouries, 12 Chapel St., Brampton.

The Regiment's new colors include battle honors won in the Second World War and are in addition to honors achieved in the First World War by predecessor units which were amalgamated to form the present regiment.

The colors will be consecrated by Lt. Col. B. Miller, Director of Charities Services (P.), who will be accompanied by the Right Reverend F. H. Wittkinson, Bishop of Toronto.

The October program, now in preparation, will feature a guard of honor for the Queen's representative October 8, a mess din-

# Speed and Spite...

I visited a mental hospital recently. A couple of nights after that I watched television "radio-dial" Letty-Brown. Both experiences produced the same reactions: fascination, absorption, and sadness. They also made me ponder the causes of the growing neuroticism of today.

Surely we can't blame it all on "The Bomb." That's too easy. I think there are a couple of ingredients a little closer to home, on which we can focus. If we eliminated them, we might even eliminate "The Bomb."

The two elements in modern living which are increasing our population of neurotic and frightened people are speed and greed. Speed is the deity of the 20th century as surely as money was that of the 19th, reason that of the 18th. We worship it cynically, but unashamedly.

Greed is the fat, slobbering little beast inside us that makes us repulsive if we feed it, frustrated if we don't, and happy only if we strangle it at birth.

Everything is speeding up. When I was a kid, people used to sit around on their porches on a May evening, shooting the breeze, then go off to bed soon after dark. They slept all night. No pills.

If you sit around on your front porch nowadays, all it means is that you're a bum, because if you were any good you'd have enough money so that you could either be chasing

ing around the lawn behind a power mower, or sitting in a chair watching television, like a decent citizen.

Speed has ceased to be a means to an end, and has become an end in itself, though we refuse to admit it. We speed up production so that we can "turn out the article more cheaply." As soon as the new method is in operation, the price goes up, "higher overhead." We speed on the highways to save time, and spend six months in the hospital, when we fail to make that curve. We speed housework with new gadgets, so the good wife will have more leisure time — to sit around with a bottle, or go out and play bingo.

Shopping used to be a last-surely, pleasant part of daily life for women. It was a hang-over from the open market of less frizzled times. At the grocery store, they met their neighbors, exchanged repairs with the grocer, pinched the meat, tasted the cheese, squeezed the bread, thumped the melons, prodded the chickens, and sniffed the fish. And above all, they chewed the fat.

Today, shopping is a frightening, soul-destroying ordeal. The only things the ladies can get their hands on are the vegetables, and there isn't much joy in pinching, thumping, or taking a bite out of a turnip. Where their grandmothers dipped a hand into a box or barrel to taste or feel, they worriedly read labels or anxiously peer into those vast, gleaming mortuaries which have replaced the old meat counter.

From every shelf, in every

color, they are shouted at to "hurry, be quick, hasten, grab me, buy more," and harassed by "family size, special deal, limited time only, 10c off." No wonder they scuffle about furiously, snatching up packages like hot potatoes and throwing them wildly into their carts.

Everything spells out speed and greed: minute rice, instant coffee, pre-cooked ham, oven-ready chickens, ready-mix cakes, quick-frozen fish. As a result, they buy twice as much as they need in half the time they should.

Then, instead of a mutually-suspicious but friendly tallying of the bill with the grocer, they dive for a spot in the lineup. The grub is whisked into bags, the cash register chatters its staccato song, and they find themselves speeded into the street, a vast bag in each arm, and only the vaguest idea of how much they spent.

I'd like to spend more time on this theme, but I shall have to excuse me now. I've got to hurry and finish this column, so I can rush down to the kitchen. My wife wants to know whether I want instant coffee or jelly cones with the piece of pie (instant fill, ready-mix crust) for my mid-night snack. Got to save time if I want to read my book (right before I go to bed. Think I'll have a big slice of gorgonzola cheese with the pie. Instant dreams, you know.

## Our Canadian Holiday...

The following article was written by Reginald M. Teit, National Educational Secretary of the I.O.E. We reproduce it here because of the clarity it provides on the celebration of two important Canadian dates.

"The nation's oldest and perhaps most beloved national holiday was first celebrated in 1845... twenty-two years before the date of Canadian Confederation. Because the date is still associated with pleasant spring weather, bursting fireworks and feelings of patriotic pride, it is not surprising that it enjoys universal popularity throughout the nation.

It all began in 1845 when the legislature of the Province of Canada (now Ontario and Quebec) declared the anniversary of Queen Victoria's birth, May 24, to be a holiday. Ever since that year a special day in commemoration of a good queen has been observed annually in Canada.

Over the years, Victoria Day has reminded Canadians not only of a respected monarch but of the whole astonishing period known as the Victorian age. Here was a time of achievement in trade, commerce, science, art, invention and exploration. Among the vital developments were the laying of the Atlantic cable, construction of the Suez Canal, discovery of the Northwest Passage, exploration of Africa, together with development of the modern railroad, steamships, photography, telegraphy, electric lights, rotary printing press, telephone, phonograph, the sewing machine and the automobile.

Because the British Empire reached its height during the long reign of Queen Victoria, there was a tendency in Canada to associate Empire affairs with the Queen's birthday. This trend found its way into school life through the efforts of Clementina Kennan of Hamilton, Ontario. Being an energetic and patriotic woman, she began, in 1898, to interest Canadians in the idea of a school day set apart to honour the British Empire. As a result, in that same year the Dominion Education Association (now the Canadian Education Association) proposed the establishment of Empire Day in Canadian schools. The proposal met with such strong support that in 1899 the first Empire Day was observed in the classrooms... May 23, the last school day before Victoria Day. Thus, there arose two special days, one a school day and the other a statutory holiday.

"Historical evolution from Empire to Commonwealth has gradually altered, in some parts of Canada, the name of the school ob-

servance from Empire Day to Commonwealth Day. Practice in this regard, however, has varied from Province to Province. Officially Commonwealth Day is the last school day before Victoria Day.

"A changed viewpoint in connection with the Empire has been admirably expressed by Queen Elizabeth II.

"The Commonwealth bears no resemblance to the empires of the past. It is an entirely new conception built in the highest qualities of the spirit of man: friendship, loyalty and the desire for freedom and peace."

"It is well for Canadians to remember that the Commonwealth at present includes sixteen member nations and the many dependencies of member nations. The Commonwealth is a free partnership of nations whose peoples differ in race, religion and tradition. These are all nations earnestly attempting to solve their problems through tolerance and mutual understanding.

Another interesting development beginning ten years ago was the use of the word "Citizenship" in connection with the observance of Commonwealth Day. This was a natural and logical step taken to promote consideration of the privileges and responsibilities of Canadian citizenship.

"Since 1953 the federal government has established Victoria Day as being on the Monday immediately preceding May 25." This change had the advantage of providing a long holiday weekend for Canadians. At the same time, Citizenship Day was designated as the Friday immediately preceding Victoria Day.

"It should be noted; however, that in our provincial systems of schools the Friday preceding Victoria Day is known variously as Empire Day, Commonwealth Day, Citizenship Day, or Commonwealth and Citizenship Day.

A proclamation on January 31, 1957, by the Canadian Parliament, has added greater significance to Victoria Day. This first Monday immediately preceding May 25 was also fixed for the celebration in Canada of the birthday of Queen Elizabeth II.

So it is that over the past 118 years a relatively simple birthday celebration has grown into the observance of two special and related days devoted to the honouring of Queen Victoria, the British Empire, the Commonwealth, Canadian citizenship and the reigning sovereign, Queen Elizabeth II.

"It is to be hoped that on Friday, May 17, and Monday, May 20, 1963, Canadians across the nation will hold ceremonies in keeping with the best traditions of Empire, Commonwealth and country.

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## Let's Play Bridge

One thing that sets bridge apart from other card games is the exchange of information that takes place between two partners. Each bid that is made should describe a little more accurately to your partner what kind of hand you hold.

Now everyone is used to listening to his (or her) partner, but how much attention is paid to the inferences of the opponents bidding. I would like to show a hand in which I did not, to my regret, listen to what the opponents said and draw the proper conclusions.

**Board Number 2.**  
Dealer: North  
East-West Vulnerable.

North		East	
S-A 6 5	H-9 4 3 2	D-A K 6 4	C-K 5
South		West	
S-K J 10 3	H-8 7 4	D-10 7	C-A O J 8
H-O 6	H-A 5	D-Q 9 5 3 2	C-9 6 3
D-10 7	D-Q 9 5 3 2	C-A O J 8	C-9 6 3

The Bidding:  
North: 1 D, 2 H, 2 H  
East: 1 H, 1 S, 1 S  
South: 1 S, 2 H, 2 H  
West: 1 H, 1 S, 1 S

The bidding is fairly clear cut except perhaps for West's overcall on a four card suit. West has almost an opening bid and might well consider doubling. However West did not double and I forgot this fact as you will see.

West opened with the diamond ten, won in dummy. A heart was led and I played the ten. West won with the queen and led another diamond. This was won in dummy and a third diamond was led and ruffed by declarer with the heart jack. A club was led and West took the ace and exited with a club. The club king won in dummy and I led the last diamond ruffing with the king. A club was ruffed, the spade ace cashed and I exited with an spade. West took two spades leaving this position as I could see it:

North		South	
H-9 4	H-8 7 4	D-10 7	C-A O J 8
H-O 6	H-A 5	D-Q 9 5 3 2	C-9 6 3

At this point West led the heart eight. If this is the only heart that West has I am doomed as East would have the A-6 over dummy. I should duck in dummy in case East has lost track of trump. If West has A-8 left I should play the nine from dummy.

Actually I played the nine and went down one trick. I could say I guessed wrongly but this is not true for West cannot have the ace of hearts. Why not? Given the ace of hearts with everything else that West had shown with West would have an opening bid and West would have doubled. I missed the inference of the fact that West did not double.

Don't listen only to partners' bids, tune in on the opposition as well. Draw inference not only from what they bid but what they did not bid. This week's winners: first, Al Capper, Glenn Banks; second, Mrs. Mary Hollenback, Mrs. Gloria Coats; third, Mrs. Howson, Miss Logan.

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