

BY BILL DALRY

20 YEARS AGO

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

Grass and bush fires have been threatening in this district since Sunday and have required a lot of attention. On Sunday, a grass fire raged across fields east of Acton and threatened to come up to the houses on the east end of the Crescent. The fire brigade was called and had the blaze under control in half an hour. On Monday, a bush fire started just south of Acton, over 25 to 40 acres on two farms and is still out of control. With the very dry condition of the woods, it is in danger of spreading still farther. A day and night vigil is being kept on the flames. The fire equipment is of no use in the bush.

The new municipal fire is now in service and a detailed question in facilitating Acton's municipal services.

The fire department of the band stand at the park entrance was completed this week and is a marked improvement. At the fire drill at Acton school last week all the pupils were out of the building in 40 seconds after the alarm was sounded.

Even in October, the calcium and improvement on No. 25 Hwy. between Acton and Milton are really appreciated. Someone must be interested in northern-Halton.

The Acton Branch of the Navy League met on Tuesday evening for the annual meeting. Officers for the coming year are: president, Mr. H. Boulton, vice president, Mr. M. Leitch, secretary, Mr. J. G. G. assistant, Miss W. Wright, treasurer, Mr. J. Creighton, publicity, Mr. W. Gales, ditto, Miss A. McCallum.

Monday morning, Acton and District will start with the rest of Canada on the Fifth Victory Loan. There is no need to tell of the urgency of the job being undertaken. Our share of Canada's objective is \$25,000. It will take the combined efforts of every citizen to meet that obligation.

A large section of the platform at the Canadian National Railway station in Rockwood was burned last week after the display blanks were ignited, apparently by a spark from an engine. No one was in the station at the time and the blaze had gained considerable headway before discovery.

50 YEARS AGO

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

Terrible fatal accident occurred on the Grand Trunk Railway bridge at Rockwood on Saturday morning when Eli Stout, one of the oldest residents of the village, was struck by the 10 o'clock train going east. He was 83 years of age and hard of hearing. The need for enlarged playgrounds at the school has been before the School Board for a number of years. Investigation has proven that a portion of land well-suited for playground may now be secured on the westerly limits of the present grounds. The secretary was hereinafter instructed to confer with W. H. Storey and Son to secure an option on about three-fourths of an acre of this property.

A very important matter came before the Board of Education at their meeting on Monday evening when the proposal came by an accredited representative of the Department of Education to give the pupils of our schools a series of lessons on sex hygiene and personal purity. It is every child's inalienable right to be adequately and properly instructed in intelligent honesty and intelligent truthfulness and chastity of all an intelligent purity—the key stone of character. A message, clean, clear and concise and chief-ly couched in needed by every child. The board will be doing most important work if they arrange for such a series of lessons.

J. McCune, a farmer for the Boyd Construction Co. was charged on Friday before Magistrate H. P. Moore and A. F. Siskin with cruelly abusing a horse he was driving by striking it on the head with a shovel at the Dolly Varden siding. Two reliable witnesses gave evidence and he was convicted and fined \$100 and costs.

The residents of the Third Line at Glen Lawson have been quite anxious about the additional lamp post at the G.T.R. crossing when the new electric road gets into operation. A new deviation at the crossing may be constructed to help minimize the danger.

The price of eggs is soaring abnormally. Scarcely a day goes by without a price increase at this time of year.

What did you do, old friend, on Thanksgiving weekend? Whatever it was, it could not have been anything but pleasant on this odd, pagan holiday, so peculiarly-Canadian.

I know. We imported it from the States. But we have made it very much our own, and it has a flavor that is purely-Canadian, much different from the Thanksgiving observed across the line.

Pagan? Yes, indeed. It should be a religious time, with the entire population on its knees, giving thanks with full hearts.

The percentage of the populace that is on its knees on Thanksgiving Day could probably be accommodated in a couple of trolley cars. The rest are on their wheels, their feet, or their tails.

Thanksgiving weekend marks the last gasp, that thing of the Canadian people before they get down to the serious business of trying to stay sane through another winter.

It's the weekend to charge about the country, visiting relatives or friends, pointing wildly to the last furious thing of color in the trees, making the last nostalgic trip to the cottage, getting out in the boat for one final bliss.

It's the weekend to tramp the lush, fall fairways for that last, blasphemous game of golf, to stroll the muted woods with a gun to wade the mazel-deep forest-water for that last rambow trout.

It's the weekend to sit in your favorite chair, cold drink in hand, and watch all the football games on television, your peace broken only by the maddening aroma of roasting turkey.

Or, if you're the domestic type, it's the weekend for quiet pleasures.

Fat in the Fire Halts Bake Shop

Burning fat in the oven at the Scotch Bakery, Georgetown, caused shutdown of baking activities last Thursday and loss estimated by owner Ernest Sykes at between \$300 and \$500. The bake shop has a branch in Acton and there wasn't much baking for sale here the day after the fire, either.

Mr. Sykes said the fat had saturated sand beneath the four trays oven when 1,200 pounds of roast beef and 25 turkeys were cooked for the World Plowing Match at Caledon Wednesday.

The gas oven had been operating continuously for 24 hours, but the meat was cooked and the bakery staff was preparing to bake the first pie of the day. The flames were discovered by one of the employees, checking the oven before beginning the day's baking, shortly after nine o'clock in the morning. Pie ready for the oven were damaged by smoke.

About 12 Georgetown volunteer firemen answered the call, using a chemical fire extinguisher to put out the flames, and a smoke machine to disperse the ever-smoking smoke and smell.

It was Fire Prevention Week in Georgetown, too.

Tractor Drawbolt Can Be Deadly

Recently a young Ontario farmer almost lost his life when the tractor drawbolt bounced out. The tongue of the wagon dug into the road and the wagon depended on top of the tractor and driver.

Under the recent British farm safety laws it is now an offence, carrying a stiff fine, to use such a drawbolt, which has no safety features that prevent it jolping loose. One-piece drawbolts with spring safety catches are simple and easy to use and are readily available from almost all of our farm machinery dealers. This small investment in safety could save a life.

Three Rotary Clubs To Meet at Norval

A tri-club meeting of Georgetown Acton and Milton Rotary Club members will take place October 29 at the Riviera in Norval. The International Rotary convention in Toronto next year will be discussed by guest speaker Joe Calder, "Mr. Rotary" of District 207.

PERMIT ISSUE

During September, a total of 500 in building permits was issued. Building Inspector, W. Halls, said Esquering Council Monday night. Houses, garages and additions made up of the total.

ures, deeper satisfactions: putting on the storm windows, raking and burning leaves, bringing in your bulbs.

Not exactly a religious holiday, is it? I think there's a great dumb feeling of thankfulness in Canadians at this time of year, but it doesn't manage to break through the pagan rituals with which we have surrounded the occasion.

I'm not complaining; merely observing. But every year, at Thanksgiving, I make personal and lonely efforts to take an hour off from the sun, compose my features into a suitable solemn expression, and think about the things for which I should be thankful. I don't have to search. Sometimes I can do it in 10 minutes.

The first thing for which I am thankful is being alive. Hundreds of millions aren't, and look at what they're missing! The second is food. I have been hungry, and it's the most degrading, demoralizing, soul-destroying illness in this world.

Another reason to be thankful is for freedom. In this country,

we have a personal freedom to speak, work and worship that is beyond the wildest dreams of the majority of our fellow humans.

Health is a reason for raising thanks. I can no longer out-strip a gazelle, but I can outrun a 60-year-old lady with arthritis. I can't swim five miles any more, but I can swim farther than my wife. That's good enough.

Work you like is reason for thankfulness. I like mine. It's too hard, and I don't make enough money, and I'm always behind in it, but I like it. Environment is another source of thankfulness. I wouldn't trade my oak tree and my black squirrels, my favorite trout stream and my partridge-haunted woods for the Taj Mahal with Liz Taylor in residence.

There you are. Out of space, and I've barely started. Try it. You don't know how rich you are, until you begin to count.

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Daylight Saving Time
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6:31 a.m. (Daily except Sun
and Hol.) 8:54 a.m. (Daily except
Sat. Sun & Hol. Express) 8:55
a.m. 11:33 a.m. 2:06 p.m. 5:04
p.m. 6:24 p.m. 8:31 p.m. 10:14
p.m. (Sun and Hol.)
Westbound
7:17 a.m. (Daily except Sat.
Sun & Hol.) 10:27 a.m. 12:57
p.m. 2:53 p.m. 5:27 p.m. 7:27
p.m. 9:12 p.m. 11:12 p.m. 1:02
a.m. (Sat. only)

CANADIAN NATIONAL
RAILWAYS
Daylight Saving Time:
Eastbound
8:55 a.m. to Toronto, daily ex-
cept Sat. and Sun. 7:01 a.m. to
Toronto, daily except Sat. and
Sun. daily except Sunday and
Monday direct connection for
Owen Sound etc. 7:42 p.m. to
Toronto, daily except Sunday.
8:01 p.m. to Toronto Sunday ex-
cept 10:25 p.m. to Toronto, daily,
board at Georgetown only.
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8:01 a.m. to Stratford, daily ex-
cept Sun. 8:21 p.m. to Stratford,
daily except Sat. and Sun. 7:04
a.m. to Stratford, daily except
Sat.

For further information, call
your local agent 853-3450.



FALLING LEAVES are considered a chore for grownups but to children they mean hours of enjoyment. Cathy and Charles Griese, daughter and son of Mr. and Mrs. Cranston Griese, are seen as they take a breather while raking leaves on the lawn of A. B. McLean, Bower Ave. In connection with the Elmer the Safety Elephant campaign, children are learning to play with leaves in a safe place.

No Time to Emulate...

We were rather disappointed in the personal conduct of various councillors at last week's regular council meeting. In the field of federal and provincial politics we have come to accept the petty bickering and personal innuendos exchanged so freely by various politicians. We have justified some of these actions and inferences by the party system we have in our higher forms of government. We have come to expect and certainly to discount the rather exaggerated aspersions cast on the character and ancestry of the elected representatives in Ottawa and Toronto. With the increase in salary we, perhaps vainly, anticipated an improvement in keeping with their assumed new professional status. However, regardless of our opinions of our parliamentarians' behaviour, we note they still continue to address each other as "the honorable member" or "the honorable gentleman".

We feel it would be wise for Acton councillors not to attempt to emulate the higher paid professional brothers in Ottawa in the pointed barb and attack by inference. We like to think that municipal council is the grass roots example of our democratic system of government. Party politics does not enter into the picture at all. Each member of council is elected because of his particular personal talents and ability by all the rate-payers in the municipality. We are sure that once elected, each member is willing to contribute to these talents to the best of his ability. The actions taken by council may not always be what individually councillors would like; they are, however, the actions deemed by the majority to be the answer to the problem under discussion. It is the individual's right and duty to either approve or disapprove of these decisions but not to hamstring council by its re-introduction into every other subject under consideration.

Halton on Display...

Halton County went to the International Plowing Match last week with a varied and interesting display that attracted an estimated 100,000.

Main purpose of the county's display at the plowing match on the Caledon farm of Conn Smythe was to attract industry. A plowing matchmanym shows a strange place to go industry hunting but there such hunting often requires peculiar tactics to be effective. For instance, Halton was the only municipality represented at the event as a unit. If the county's display had been surrounded by those of other municipalities, the effect would hardly have been the same.

Damage Trail...

For some reason, vandals seem to be the target of vandals who leave a trail of senseless damage in their wake.

Cash is seldom the object of the vandals' seldom in any great quantity. Last week three rural Esquering schools were the target of vandals and the cash they gathered was only about \$4.

The trail of damage was much greater

at several schools where desks, drawers, wire racks and the damage in the wake of vandals took its toll in hours of clean-up time. We sympathize with the damage done to the schools. First of all, the vandals are not the only ones who are damaged. They have a certain amount of fun, though, and the damage may be repaired.

Included in the display were items that also served to give visitors a peek at the Halton county. In so doing it may indeed have proved its effectiveness, indirectly, by attracting attention to this fast growing county of opportunity.

It is possible such a display could prove an effective tool in portraying the best of the county. It was displayed at fair times or similar functions in every municipality in the county. Certainly, Halton's first attempt at a display cannot be assessed in terms of dollars and cents. It may pay off in other ways.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

CHINGUACOUSY—The Township doesn't want its police department using "ghost cars" cars without official police markings. "There shouldn't be any car in the Chinguacousy police department without the townships name on the door," said Reeve Cyril Clark.

GEORGE TOWN—Council was shocked to learn some facts and figures about overcrowding in a few local homes. There are 24 satellite in one home and planning to take in boarders while 22 are crammed into another house on the same street, and 17 swarmed into a third, much family dwelling.

MILTON—The town assessor has been named temporary zoning administrator to police the zoning by-law against what the Planning Board calls flagrant violations. John Charlton, who received the appointment will hold the part-time post for three months as a test of the job.

BURKHEAD—Ayer Gilliland, Miss Burlington for the past two years, will be representing the town in the Miss Canada pageant in Toronto in three weeks. The Legion Branch 50 has agreed to sponsor her. Mr. G. Gilliland and the Miss Canada contest last year and was held in the town of the town of the town.

BELMONTAIN—Wagon fire destroyed The Maples, a car, and the local Valley Conservation Authority property. The blaze took the tops of the district residents for a library and a power plant. The burning was started for a village library and was another day being sought.

LOKILEE—Georgetown, Ont. planned the town fire department will be representing the town in the first two weeks of this month. "All we need is a few more fire trucks," said Chief Douglas Wilson as he inspected the town's fire trucks.

To Choose "Queen of Furrow" During Halton Plowing Match

The tradition of the Halton Plowing Match is to elect a "Queen of the Furrow" during the match. This year the match will be held at the Caledon farm of Conn Smythe. The match will be held on Saturday, October 29, and will feature a variety of plowing and harrowing contests. The match is a popular event and attracts a large number of spectators. The "Queen of the Furrow" is elected by a jury of judges and is a title of honor for the winner.

York County Farmer Cops Pasture Prize

A York County farmer, Bruce Harper of Stratford, was named champion for the 1961 Ontario Pasture Competition. This competition sponsored by the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association and supervised by the Soil and Crop Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture, had four finalists this year. Along with 1st place winner Bruce Harper were Fred Cobbe of Burgessville and Garnet Ralph of Richmond, being for second place. The winning pasture was owned by Bruce Harper and his wife, Mrs. Harper. Harper's pasture was judged to be the best in the province.

This year's speaker for the combined banquet to be held in the Masons Hall, Milton, at 7 p.m. is George S. Atkins of the Farm Broadcast Department of the CBC.

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