

Brownies Lead Way ...

Preparations for the celebration of Canada's Centennial in Acton in 1967 will be reviewed at a special meeting next Monday at the Robert Little School. The Program Committee invited Acton organizations and groups to a meeting last November and outlined several proposals. At next Monday's meeting the organization representatives are expected to outline their program proposals. With only 10 months until Centennial Year arrives, the first group we heard of with firm plans, was the local Guides and Brownies. (Just this week we learn Dublin W.I. has decided on furnishing a room at the Manor).

When the Guide commissioner requested use of the park in July 1967 from the Parks Board, the board thought perhaps a typographical error had been made in the year. We are pleased to note it is a small group of young children that has been the first organization to have a definite program. Perhaps once again it will be the children who will lead the way to a full participation by the apparently foot-dragging adult groups. Now is the time to plan our events — no George is going to come along and do it for us and January 1967 will be too late to start.

In many parts of the country there is a good deal of excitement about Expo '67 — Canada's world exhibition whose site is to be at Montreal next year. Around Acton we have heard very little mention of it, but we are sure that a lot of people are going to have their eyes opened before many weeks go by.

At the Brussels world exhibition in 1958, 45 nations took part. At Expo '67, no less than 70 countries have signed on the dotted line to take part and there is every reason to believe that the original estimate of 80 participating nations will be reached. Some of the work done already on the site includes 52 structures under way and the start on construction of 17 nations.

Canadian business is committed to a sum no less than \$45 million and it is reported the Russians will be spending around \$20 million on their exhibit. These are just a few of the simple facts which give an indication of what is to be Expo '67. There are less than 13 months until it opens and there is every indication Expo '67 is a great Canadian triumph in the making.

Town Planning ...

One Centennial project which is being discussed, and will likely be undertaken in many towns of Canada is the implementation of a Norwich plan project. Various Chambers of Commerce and Board of Trade are discussing the plan under which the main street is redesigned. An architectural firm is hired to submit a design for the whole of the area in which each establishment is compatible with all the other stores. The plan has been implemented in various municipalities with varying degrees of success. In Oakville a start was made but appears to have bogged down. In Stratford a great deal of civic pride has been generated and the plan can be termed successful.

Certainly in Acton a great improvement could be made in the appearance of our downtown business section. We think the retail section of the Chamber of Commerce could, at least, think about such a plan and make an attempt to improve the show window of Acton.

Disposable License Plates ...

How much longer will the Ontario motorist tolerate the present system of disposable licence plates? For the life of us we see no reason why the English and European system of issuing permanent plates with the car cannot be adopted. Every year the department issues stern warnings that no extension of the plate deadline will be granted. Before we have even purchased our 1966 plates a picture of a pretty girl with the '67 plates is that there will be a crown on them as well as a blurb for Centennial year. It seems to us the department might have adopted a reflective type of licence which at least has some safety benefits.

In spite of all this, but on behalf of all half-frozen motorists, wrestling with stubborn, rusted and ice cold plates in Ontario, we ask just why a permanent plate and a small validating sticker through the mail would not eliminate this annual nuisance?

Traffic Signals ...

While council is preparing its budget for 1966 we hope that once again some consideration will be given the proposal to install traffic signals at the Mill and Main Street corners. Over the years traffic surveys conducted by the department have indicated no lights are required. It is our hope the lights are installed before they have to be recommended by a coroner's jury.

The department suggests lights will slow the flow of traffic. So what? It is our opinion it would not take too much intelligence to install a set of traffic lights of standard design which could be operated normally through the peak traffic period and revert to a flashing amber and red signal system as is presently in operation. The net result would be that the traffic flow would be controlled as it presently is during low volume time and at peak flow the uncertainty and confusion would be eliminated.

Larger Telephone Area ...

It is interesting to us to note that Milton council passed a resolution endorsing a Bell Telephone proposal to enlarge the Milton toll-free area. Attached to Milton's resolution was the recommendation that Acton be included in the Milton toll-free area. In accepting the increased area, Milton subscribers' rates will increase by four rate groups; Acton's rate would be increased by one rate group.

A few years ago Bell proposed that Guelph be included in the Acton toll-free area and at that time we, along with several others, opposed the increased area. Because of our own business interest in Milton, we, at the present time, hesitate to urge extension of free calling to include Milton.

However, with the suggestion of a regional form of government and if municipal services operated from Milton increased, it would be desirable to have available toll-free calling. Our main opposition to free calling to Guelph stemmed from our belief that such a service would be of little benefit to the majority of subscribers and also a form of direct competition to our local merchants.

Perhaps we should re-assess our thinking on an extension of telephone area in the light of our past experience with a relatively small calling area. Too, we could be left as a very small and isolated area in the middle of much larger areas of influence.

We must remember, of course, that any increase in service we require or request, must be paid for. And the only ones to pay for it will be ourselves.

Editorial Page



"COOL CHICKS!" could easily be the caption for this photo after Acton Figure Skating Club members came off the ice Friday night at the arena. The youngsters, dressed in their short skirts, were literally frozen as temperatures dipped below zero. Included in the photo are Dolores Jordan, Kathy Peycha, Debby Papillon, Karen Townsley and Brenda Denny.

Sugar and Spice ...

BY BILL SMILEY

There's nothing like an old fashioned blizzard to put that cocky creature, man, in his place. We're right in the middle of a four-star dandy at the moment. It's been snowing and blowing for 48 hours, with salutary results. The world has become a wild, white wilderness. And the people in it have become human beings.

The creature man in his wisdom believes he has tamed nature. He will admit, under quizzing, that he still doesn't know much about himself. But he is confident that he has brought the natural world to heel.

Naturally he thinks of nature as something subdued, something to be used for recreation, or looked at and saying, "Nice, ain't it?"

It takes a rousing belch from that old troll, Mother Nature, whether it be in the form of a blizzard, a hurricane, an earthquake or a fire, to set him right back on his primitive heels.

And strangely enough it is only when nature comes up with some kind of a spectacular that man seems to shed his scale of materialism, get down to his basic virtues, and find out once again what makes the human race go round in ever-diminishing circles.

Ordinarily, the Christian virtues are as easily spotted as the teeth in a hen who is drawing the old age pension. But when nature gives a vast rumble of

laughter at the little fellows, and collapses the facade of creature comforts which are the modern-day fetters, the old virtues brighten the darkest corner.

Generosity, unselfishness, decency, down-to-earthness — all the things to which we pay lip service — suddenly flower when people are getting a good kick in the teeth from old Mother.

When a blizzard is raging, ordinary, miserable, grouchy people regain some of those qualities the pioneers are supposed to have had. People who wouldn't pick up the Queen of England, even if she displayed a sign reading, "Buckingham Palace or bust", suddenly start picking up hitch-hikers.

People who ordinarily wouldn't give you the time of day will stop and shove you out of a snowbank. People who wouldn't buy an apple from a Boy Scout will shovel out old ladies' driveways.

And stranger of all, they smile and grin and chortle while they're doing it.

Not only do they revert to humanity. They return to a certain primitive pride in doing battle with the elements.

People who will grumble for hours about a sprinkle of rain that spoils a picnic, turn into giants when the big snow

comes. They snort and stamp into work half an hour late, as proud as though they'd just crossed the Sahara, single-handed, without water. They die in their hundreds, frozen grins on their faces, clutching their snow shovels.

I speak from experience. This morning, my neighbor, with whom I exchange a carefully aimed greeting about every six months, had managed to smash his truck through the three-foot drift in his drive. And there he was when he munched out, grinning like a gargoyle, motor running, to give us a drive to work. And he wasn't practicing one-upmanship. He was being a good neighbor.

Got to work, and found that one chap had driven through the storm for four-and-a-half hours to make it on time. He was shivered, unshaven, and something of a hero, for perhaps the first time in his life.

I hate to suggest it, in case old Mother N. is listening, but perhaps we need a few more blizzards, earthquakes, holocausts and hurricanes. They work a lot better than nationally advertised Brotherhood Weeks.

The Good Old Days ...

20 YEARS AGO

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Feb. 21, 1946.

Welcome home! Pte. Lino Marz, who has been serving for two and a half years overseas, arrived home. Like his brothers, Ezio and Bino, he was one of Acton's hockey players. Pte. A. Johnston, who before enlisting was driver for Acton Home Bakery, is back residing in Georgetown.

Servicemen affiliated with Acton United Church were given a welcome home night on Friday last when a chicken supper was served about 100 men of the congregation and a delightful social evening was enjoyed. Mr. Charles Mason led in a sing-song, assisted by Norm Gibson and Ted Clifford. Rev. Walter Forsbury was the genial master of ceremonies. Halton's elected members, Mr. Hughes Cleaver and Mr. Stanley Hall, both spoke.

Sunday evening, the scouts and cubs paraded to St. Alban's church, Wednesday evening, the scouts held Parents' and Friends' Night in Knox church. There was a community sing led by Mr. W. Coles with Rev. R. F. Thomson, scoutmaster, at the piano. Mr. A. T. Brown showed nature study pictures taken by the late C. C. Speight and himself.

The scouts, about 20 strong, put on a Minstrel Show in which Jack Mainprize was the interactor and Bob Bowles and Ted Ruchlin the end men. The cup for the best patrol was won by the Eagles and presented to James Dills. Doug Davidson was the nest all-round scout of the year and won the trophy presented by the Scout Mothers.

Messrs. J. B. Chalmers and J. M. McDonald attended the meeting of council as a committee from the Legion, asking what consideration was being given as to what recognition would be given those who had served in the last war. The Legion would like to cooperate.

Council decided to purchase a fire alarm siren from the War Assets Corporation for \$295. The Earl of Athlone, Governor-General of Canada, and Princess Alice are on a farewell tour.

50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Feb. 24, 1916.

Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Bell very hospitably entertained the members of Acton platoon of the 164th Battalion on Friday evening. The Battalion will soon be at full strength.

Red Cross funds were swelled by \$71 received for a car of waste paper gathered by the Boy Scouts.

Rural recruiting will receive an impetus with the announcement that farmers and farmers' sons will be given special furlough to permit them to assist with plowing and harvesting.

The Hydro Commission has announced reduced rates.

On Saturday evening, the staff of the Free Press gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Moore, "Monocroft", Robert Stewart, a valued member of the staff, having enlisted in the Acton platoon, was presented with a serviceable gun metal wrist watch by Mr. Ernest Brown, the foreman, on behalf of the office and staff. "Bobby" is enrolled on the Free Press honor roll which includes Lieut. W. G. C. Kenney, R.V.S., Lance Corporal Bugler John L. Moore, Pte. Ernest Wilson and Lieut. E. J. Moore, who is now at Officers' Training School in Toronto.

The cold weather has resulted in a coal and wood famine. It was 26 below Sunday.

The Literary Society which was reorganized at Ballinatal is doing nicely. Next subject for debate is "Resolved that the telephone is of more benefit to the farmer than the rural mail." Affirmative: Roy Varnpool, Bugler John L. Moore, Pte. Ernest Wilson and Lieut. E. J. Moore, who is now at Officers' Training School in Toronto.

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Decision was given at Osonge Hall by which Trafalgar Township council are unseated, due to irregularities in the election.

Berlin City Council has petitioned the Legislature to change its name and may amalgamate with Waterloo.

Georgetown's high school salaries total over \$5,000.

Acton Women's Institute will again pack a bale for destitute Belgian children. Garments are to be taken to the council chamber.

Government Gives

Hockey Equipment

Two sets of goal equipment, two goal masks and a dozen pucks have been given to Branch 197 of the Royal Canadian Legion by the provincial government to assist in its Minor Hockey program.

Branch treasurer Gordon McCutcheon received a letter to this effect last week from Halton M.P.P. George Kerr. The Ontario government assists minor hockey by supplying equipment through the athletic commissioner.

Scouts, Cubs At Banquet

Rockwood — A Father and Son banquet for the cubs and scouts was held in Rockwood town hall, attended by over 140. Rev. Gardiner of Rockwood United Church was the guest speaker. The fountain of Acton showed slides of Upper Canada and Indian Village.

THE ACTON FREE PRESS

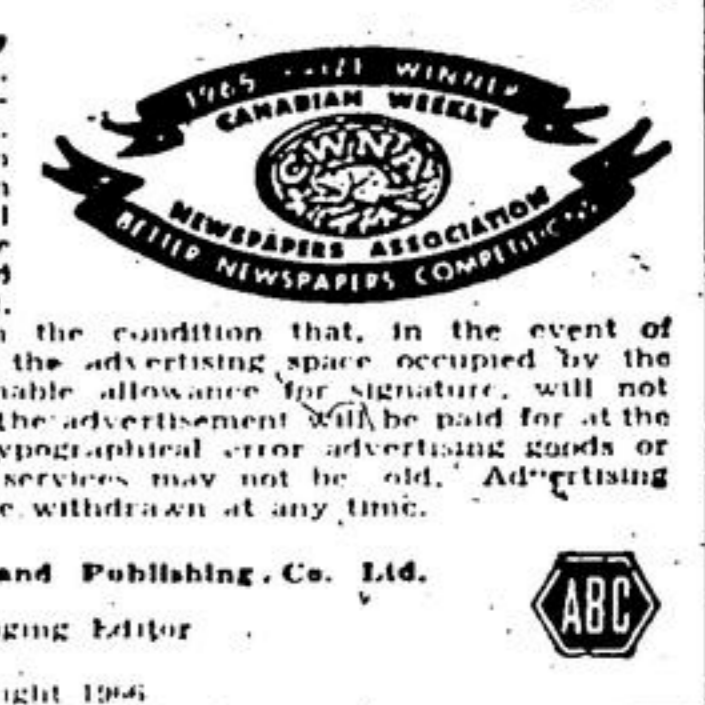
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David R. Dills, Managing Editor

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This Sunday's

Church Calendar

ACTON BAPTIST CHURCH
Founded 1842
Pastor: Rev. Stanley Gammon
Res. 144 Tidy Ave., Ph. 853-1615
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27th, 1966
9:45 a.m.—Church School. Adult Class.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
"This Book — The Bible"
Evening Service cancelled to attend Knox Missionary World Day of Prayer Service.
Wednesday — Prayer and Bible Study, 7:30.
Thursday—Choir practice, 7:30.
Friday—B.I.F.E., March 4, at 7.
Scripture: "If we say that we have fellowship with God, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not tell the truth." 1 John 1: 6.

MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27th, 1966
(Georgetown)
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Service.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service.
Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Prayer meeting.
Acton 853-1956
Georgetown 877-6665

BETH-EL CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
Acton, Ontario.
Rev. Wiebe Van Dijk
Phone 853-1585
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27th, 1966
10:00 a.m.—English Service.
2:30 p.m.—Dutch Service.
3:45 p.m.—Sunday School.

THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR ANGLICAN
Corner Willow and St. Alban's Drive
Rev. Ritchie McMurray
M.A., S.T.B.
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27th, 1966
Lent I
9:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist.
10:30 a.m.—Church School.
10:30 a.m.—Matins.
7:30 p.m.—Evensong and Lenten Study Group.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA
KNOX CHURCH, ACTON
Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D. Minister
Mr. E. A. Hansen, B.A. Organist and Choir Master
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27th, 1966
9:30 a.m.—10:30 a.m.—Youth Confirmation Class.
9:45 a.m.—Church School.
11:00 a.m.—Public Worship of God. Sermon theme, "Work that becomes Worship."
7:00 p.m.—World Day of Prayer Service conducted by Daughters of Knox. Speaker, Miss Mary Whale, Toronto, using slides. Soloist, Carol Wharton. Friends from other churches will be welcomed to this service.
Everyone Most Welcome

ACTON PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE
P.A.O.C.
33 Churchill Road
Rev. S. M. Thomas, Pastor
853-2715
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27th, 1966
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School for all ages.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Service.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service.
Tuesday, 8 p.m.—Prayer Service and Bible Study.
Thursday, 8 p.m.—Christ Ambassadors.
Friday, 7 p.m.—Crusaders.

TRINITY CHURCH (The United Church of Canada)
Minister
The Rev. Dwight I. Engel, B.A., B.D.
Organist: Mr. George Elliott, M.A., Ph.D.
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27th, 1966
9:30 a.m.—Early Service.
11:00 a.m.—Worship.
Church Parade for Cubs, Guides and Brownies.
Sermon: "Never Underestimate a Woman."
7:00 p.m.—Confirmation Class.
7:45 p.m.—Young People's meeting. Program: Investigation of Moralities. "Do Christians love everyone or just nice people?" "Why does Christianity bless marriage and condemn sex?" "Why don't we demand more of Christians?"

WISDOM OF THE WORLD

There are souls in this world which have the gift of finding joy everywhere, and leaving it behind them when they go. — Faber

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Optometrist
14 King St. S., Waterloo.
Open daily except Wednesdays
For appointment, phone Waterloo
742-8867 or 742-2339
(Acton office is closed)

ARTHUR A. JOHNSON, O.D.
184 Main St., Milton
Phone 878-9972. Res. 878-9678
Tuesday Afternoon
Thursday Evenings
Friday Mornings

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Bumley Shoemaker
Phone 853-0150 night or day
Bruce E. Shoemaker, Mgr.

TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

GRAY COACH LINES
COACHES LEAVE ACTON
Standard Time
Eastbound
6:33 a.m. (Daily, except Sun and Hol.); 8:54 a.m. (Daily except Sun and Hol. - Express); 8:58 a.m.; 11:33 a.m.; 2:08 p.m.; 5:04 p.m. (Sat. and Sun. 5:08 p.m.); 6:25 p.m.; 8:33 p.m.; 10:08 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.)
Westbound
7:47 a.m. (Daily except Sat., Sun. and Hol.); 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. (Sat. only).

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS
Standard Time
Eastbound
6:50 a.m. to Toronto, daily Mon. to Fri.; 7:30 p.m. to Toronto, Sunday only.
Westbound
12:14 a.m. to Stratford, daily except Sunday; 6:31 p.m. to Stratford, daily Mon. to Fri.; change at Guelph for London etc.

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