

## Breaking in an editor...

It is with some trepidation that the new editor of this newspaper assumes the editorial reins.

This chair has had a number of distinguished occupants since The Free Press was first established by Joseph Flacking back in 1873, each of whom has left a mark on the community. Under their guidance the newspaper has earned a reputation as one of Canada's better weeklies, a fact borne out by numerous awards and citations.

The new editor will try to implement their forward policies and imaginative grasp of the issues and problems of the community and district, although it is a large order to fill.

The traditional image of the country editor has been of a graying man wearing a green eyeshade, writing editorials with a quill pen. We're all concerned with images nowadays, even in the small towns, so I'd like to squelch that impression right here and now.

A degree of sophistication has been added.

Instead of a graying man it's usually someone who's trying, with the aid of popular nostrums, to hold onto what hair he's got left.

Instead of a quill pen scratching on parchment most editors now find a typewriter more convenient — especially for the linotype operators. The green

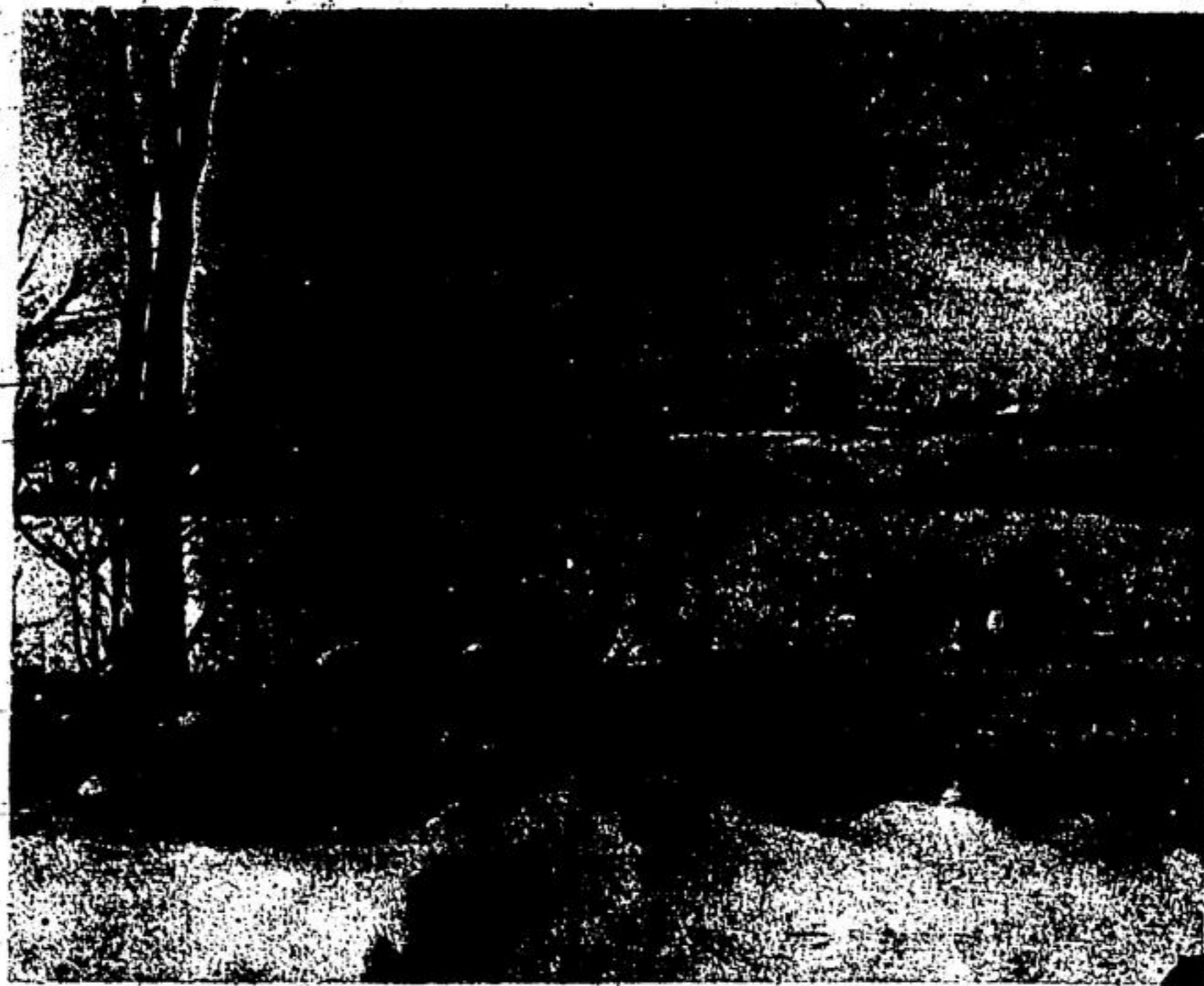
eyeshade has been replaced in many instances by horn rimmed glasses, designed to create an intellectual image, but more effective for weak eyes.

In spite of all the technical and social changes, the role of the editor remains just about the same. We like to think of the newspaper, especially the editorial page, as a public forum where the issues of the day are freely introduced and discussed. The editor is a moderator who gives his opinions in the editorial columns. The news columns, of course, are strictly impartial accounts of happenings in town and district.

If you agree or disagree with any of the opinions expressed here, feel free to put your thoughts in writing and send them along. Providing you have signed your name we'll publish it in "Our Readers Write" column. A pseudonym can be used for publication but you must sign your real name if you want the letter published.

This newspaper, like any other, is dependent for its success on the co-operation of the community. We appreciate the news items sent in each week, especially from the devoted correspondents. If you've got a news item don't hesitate to phone or send it in.

Meanwhile we'll be busy trying to assemble a newspaper which mirrors the town and district effectively.



TREES ARE GAUNT skeletons as the mid-afternoon shadows create soft impressions on the white blanket covering Fairy Lake. In a few weeks the scene

will gradually change as the sun creeps higher and the seasons start another cycle.

## Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley



This was supposed to be part two of a series on education in this country. Last week, I complained about: obsolescence; the lack of everything but pupils; the unfairness of the fund-raising for education; the lack of any national standards; and the rigidity of practically everything in the system. Not bad for a start.

In all the years I wrote this column before I began peddling pedagogy, nobody tried to suppress my opinions here. Many disagreed violently. Others threatened to cancel their subscriptions. Some said I was vulgar. And one reverend gentleman even offered to thrash me within an inch of my life. I reminded him that my big brother was a six-foot-two, 210 pound engineer, and I never heard another word.

The first hint that I should tone it down came from a representative of the mighty teachers' federation. Said they'd lived several letters from members urging that I be drummed out of the service because I was destroying the teacher's image by mentioning such human horrors as sex and drink, and by using the odd epithet.

He asked me heavily what I would do in his position. I replied lightly that I'd do what I always do with letters from cranks and bigots — chuck 'em in the wastebasket. He was annoyed. Pinned down, he admitted there were two such letters. And I was annoyed.

Second subtle suggestion was from an inspector: A lady. She passed the word that the Deputy Minister, no less, was concerned about my column and its contents.

I turned indigo and snarled, "You mean the Department is trying to tell me what I can say and can't say in my column?"

"Nonononono," she blurted, visions of headlines dancing in her head. "It's merely hoped that you'll use your own good judgement."

## Off the cuff...

Cigarette consumption continues to rise despite medical warnings, reports The Financial Post. Last year's increase reflected the highest growth rate in the past five years, an increase of 7.6 percent compared with 5.8 percent last year and 1.2 percent in 1964.

The presence of members of the St. John Ambulance at the community centre for the many activities is a comfort to parents. Their prompt attention to cuts, bruises and the occasional broken limb provides a service few other communities enjoy.

What ever happened to the old-fashioned winter? Don't hear many people asking these days.

Compared to towns and cities much larger, Acton roads are in excellent shape soon after a snowfall. It means many extra hours for the town working staff.

The dense snowfall has created a real problem for winter birds. Many people have bird feeders but even bread crumbs are speedily consumed by the feathered creatures.

## Free Press

## back issues

### 20 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Acton Free Press of Thursday, February 6, 1947.

The Duke of Devonshire Chapter of L.O.E. met at the home of Mrs. A. Young, Church St., with the regent, Mrs. Matthews presiding. Mrs. Mainprize reported for the nominating committee and the following officers were elected for the year 1947.

Honorary regent, Mrs. J. C. Matthews; regent, Mrs. N. Baird; first vice-regent, Mrs. F. S. Blow; second vice-regent, Mrs. W. Wolfe; treasurer, Mrs. C. Cooper; recording secretary, Mrs. E. E. Barr; corresponding secretary, E. J. Graham; press secretary, Mrs. C. A. Stewart; educational secretary, Mrs. G. MacDonald; standard bearer, Mrs. J. Whitham; assistant, Mrs. L. W. Agar; pianist, Mrs. F. J. Salt; assistant, Mrs. J. K. Gardner; honorary councillors, Mrs. Peter Smith, Mrs. W. J. Gould.

The recent statement by Hughes Cleaver, M.P. for Halton County, that the government was considering a \$30 million old age pension for everyone, drew a good deal of comment but no corroboration from official circles in Ottawa.

### 50 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Acton Free Press of Thursday, February 1, 1917.

Knox Church celebrated anniversary services on Sunday. The weather was bright and sunny, as it was 22 years ago when the new church was opened for worship. The preacher for the day was Rev. Dr. R. P. Mackay.

As usual, the choir rendered appropriate and very excellent music. Mr. Harold Wildgust, the leader, sang a solo. Rev. Mr. Wilson, the minister, presided during the day and it was very manifest that he thoroughly appreciated the able discourses of the venerable man of God.

The band of the Boy Scouts made their first appearance in public last Wednesday evening when the patrol formed the guard of honor as Pte. Lantz returned soldier, was escorted from his home to the town hall.

Acton Lawn Bowling and Tennis Club has been reorganized with the following officers for 1917: honorary president, A. O. T. Beardmore; president, John Wood; vice-president, George Hynes; secretary-treasurer, C. Winterbottom; bowling committee, E. J. Hassard, W. J. Gould, J. Gibbons; tennis committee, W. Arnold, A. O. T. Beardmore and E. J. Hassard.

### 75 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Acton Free Press of Thursday, February 4, 1892.

The C.P.R. is going to build a big railway station in the heart of Winnipeg. There is a balance on the right side of over \$30,000 in the county treasury of Wentworth.

The by-election in this county last Thursday resulted in a great victory for Mr. David Henderson, who has now been returned to the House of Commons the third time in four years.

The following members of the County Council comprise the standing committee for 1892: Finance, Menzies, Kennedy, Webster; roads and bridges, Pettit, Atkinson, Hutcheon, Featherstone, Reynolds; county buildings, Pettit, Atkinson, Buck, Folan, Menzies. Printing, Mack, Warren, Pettit, Kennedy, Atkinson; education, Husband, Lowry, Webster; special communications, Lowry, Featherstone, Warren, Hutcheon; railroads, Roberts, Webster, Kennedy, Pettit, Buck, Atkinson.

A petition signed by scores of citizens asking the council to purchase a piano for the town hall, will shortly be presented.

### 100 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, February 7, 1867.

It is said the plans of the British government do not embrace the introduction of a Reform Bill. The subject will be merely recommended.

Mr. J. B. Lindsay is about to resume hotel-keeping in Hornby, in the house formerly occupied by Mr. Spaling. Mr. Lindsay's ability to please the travelling public is too well known to need further recommendation here.

We are pleased to learn that Caleb Hopkins, ex-M.P.P., is about to take up his residence in Milton. His numerous friends in the country will be glad to learn that he enjoys excellent health, and that time has but confirmed him in the political principles which he so ardently espoused in his younger days.

We see it stated that the British government has given the Cunard Steamship Company notice that the contract with them for mail service which expires with the present year will not be renewed. The Liverpool Courier says the government seems disposed to adopt the American plan of paying a certain amount per letter to every vessel.

## Free Press

## Church News

### ACTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Founded 1842  
Pastor: Rev. Stanley Gammon  
Res. 144 Tidey Ave., Ph. 853-1615

Friday, February 10 — World Day of Prayer 2:30 p.m. Service in Acton Baptist Church.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1967  
10:00 a.m.—Church School and Adult Class.

11:15 a.m.—Morning Worship. "By This . . . By What?"  
7:00 p.m.—Evening Service. World Day of Prayer at Knox. Missionaries from Japan and Korea. Message and slides.

Wednesday—Prayer and Bible Study 7:30 Thursday — Explorers at 6:30 Thursday — Choir Practice, 7:30 Friday — B.H.F., at 7:00 p.m.

NOTE: Time Change—Morning Worship 11:15.

Text for the week: "If ye forgive not . . . neither will your Father forgive." Matt. 6:15

### 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 12, 1967

9:45 a.m.—Church School for ages 3 to 15.  
9:45 a.m.—Church Membership Class For Teenagers.

11:00 a.m.—Divine Worship. Sermon Theme: "Love With No Conditions."

7:30 p.m.—Daughters of Knox Day of Prayer Service. Guest Speaker: Mrs. John McIntosh, Missionary to Orient. Everyone Most Welcome.

### MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Georgetown)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1967

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

### EVANGELIC PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE

P.O.A.C. 33 Churchill Road  
Rev. S. M. Thoman, Pastor, 853-2715

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1967

10:00 a.m.—Sunday School.  
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.  
7:00 p.m.—Evangelistic Service

Tuesday, 8 p.m.—Prayer and Bible Study.  
Thursday, 8 p.m.—Christ Ambassador.  
Friday, 6:45 p.m.—Crusaders.

### TRINITY CHURCH

(The United Church of Canada)  
Minister: Rev. Dwight I. Engel, B.A., B.D.  
Organist: Mr. George Elliott, M.A., Ph.D.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1967

SUNDAY SCHOOL  
10:00 a.m.—Junior School (to Gr. 4).  
11:15 a.m.—Senior School (Gr. 5 to Gr. 8).

SERVICES  
10:00 a.m.—Trinity Church Acton. (Nursery provided.)  
11:15 a.m.—Churchill Church (Churchill Rd. N.)

Sermon Subject: "Teaching the Truth."  
8:00 p.m.—Adult Class. "Age of Reunion."

All Welcome

### BETH-EL

CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH  
Acton, Ontario.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1967  
10:00 a.m.—English Service.  
11:10 a.m.—Sunday School.  
2:30 p.m.—Alternating Dutch and English Service.

Saturday — Bible Classes, 10:12-30 a.m.  
Everyone Welcome

### THE CHURCH OF

ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR  
ANGELICAN

Corner Willow St. and St. Alban's Drive  
Rev. Ritchie McMurray, M.A., S.T.B.

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8  
The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at the following hours for the convenience of the parish:

7:15 p.m.—For those having other engagements this evening.  
8:00 p.m.—Choral Eucharist for all parishioners.

The afternoon and evening services will be celebrated by the Rev. Eric Mills, the new rector of St. George's Church, Georgetown, who will also be conducting the Wednesday evening services during Lent.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1967

Lent I  
9:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist.  
10:30 a.m.—Church School.  
10:30 a.m.—Matins and Penitential Service. Address.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15  
10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist for shift workers, mothers with small children and housewives.

7:30 p.m.—Evensong: "The Eucharist Mystery of Life and Death."



## Centennial Picture Gallery



FREE PRESS Moffat correspondent Mrs. Dave Henderson sent along this week's old picture. Shown are Mr. Peter Sayers and his eldest daughter Minnie, who was the first wife of Dr. Jas. Bell, a dentist who practised in Acton in the early 1900's. Mr. Sayers lived in Nassageweys on the fifth line on lot 17,

west half concession 6. The horse? He was a race horse named Joe, and the cutter was a racing cutter. Mr. Sayers' daughter Mabel (Mrs. David Hutcheon) gave this picture to David Henderson before she returned to British Columbia. Mrs. Henderson thinks the photo was taken about 1890.