Breaking in an editor ...

It is with some trapidation 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 Hacking back in 1875, 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 greying 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 squeich that impression right here and now.

A degree of sophistication has been

Instead of a greying 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

Our last Frontier ...

We're living on the perimeter of

That's how the Ontario Naturalist,

Commenting on shrinking recrea-

a monthly magazine, describes the Nia-

gara Escarpment in its December issue.

tional areas and urban sprawl, the Fed-

eration of Ontario Naturalists believes

there is still an opportunity - perhaps

the last - to provide adequate outdoor

recreation facilities within an hour's

drive of over helf of our population -

the Forks of the Credit, up to the Blue

Mountains to the clifflike coastline of

the Bruce Peninsula, the escarpment and

its environs has a potential for human

enjoyment comparing favorably with

any existing park in the world. Un-

fortunately the opportunity to preserve

it for public enjoyment is fading each

year as patchwork sale of small lots

outdoor recreational facilities near ur-

ban areas will be eight times greater

in 1982 than it was in 1962. No, we're

not running out of land. We're just

not making effective use of what we

sure of walking and driving, picnics,

nature walks, bicycling, skiing, hunting

are attracting overflow crowds to ex-

isting parks. More facilities are needed.

The naturalists ask what better land is

available than the Escarpment?

The relatively simple outdoor plea-

It is estimated expected demand for

continues to cut it up.

Stretching from Queenston through

by developing the Escarpment.

Southern Ontario's last frontier.

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 impertial accounts of happenings in town and

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 cooperation 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.

Like most natural resources, it's

doubtful if we who live almost on the

brink of the Escarpment, really appre-

ciate it. We call it the "Mountain", al-

though it doesn't qualify. You get a

special kind of thrill when you emerge

from the leafy bower of elms and ever-

greens around Speyside to see a vista

stretching to the blue waters of Lake

Ontario. In autumn the colors are gor-

geous. Wild life unknown in many set-

tled parts of Ontario still abounds on

... Have you ever walked the Bruce

Trail? It's only a few miles away. 'A

walk there in this centennial year is al-

most a flashback to the scene pioneers

must have seen as they ventured into

Esquesing and Nassagaweya bushlands.

Four hundred miles of footpath have

been created along the escarpment

since this concept of a walking trait was

conceived by Hamilton metallurgist Ray-

the wilds of north Halton would be as-

tonished to learn the "mountain" in

their way, an obvious nuisance for a

smooth passage to fertile farmlands be-

yond, is one of the last bastions of

You can't help but agree with On-

tario's naturalists when they say On-

tario still needs pioneers - this time

southern Ontario's last frontier.

The settlers who first plunged into

the "mountain" and its environs.

Free Press / Editorial Page



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

Sugar and Spice



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 nation. al 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-foottwo, 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 had 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

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?"

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

heavy. But, whispered this inspector, he thought he should tell me, for my own sake, that I was getting in wrong with the federation.

> "Waddaya tokkin about!", I enquired in my best Head of English Department manner. And got no answer that I could nin down.

> I seem to be down on inspectors this week. And so I am. We got the word the English inspectors were coming. I alerted my 15-odd birds in the English department.

> Next morning, the English staff would have gladdened your eye. Gals all in their best dresses, hair fresh-done. Men with their shoes shined. And every single one glowing with virtue after working till one a.m. preparing the sort of unrealistic but model lessons that inspectors expect.

> Nine a.m. Word comes that they wouldn't be there. Snowing and blowing. Any of us would have struck off for anywhere. But these city-nurtured drivers are terrified by a bit of wind and snow.

> So we shot off all those terrific lessons on the kids. Mine laughed heartily when they saw my desk cleaned off. It was the first time they'd seen me below the breast-bone in months.

And tomorrow we have to do it all over again, because the inspectors are still coming, if they can make it. May they go into a big snow-bank and sit there for four hours. If they do struggle through, it will be an anti-climax. The girls' dresses are crushed and their hair coming down. And I sure as hell am not going to shine my shoes two days in a

Just another of the evils of our system. A teacher is given a record of merit by an inspector, who sees him maybe once a year, for one or two lessons. The self-confident showman, who maybe a lazy bum normally, whips up a flashy lesson for inspection, and scores high. The self-conscious teacher, who normally does a terrific job, becomes nervous and makes a botch of things, and scores

I don't really hate inspectors. They have changed. They are no longer the old terrors, but a pretty decent, helpful lot. But the system is punk.

More next week, maybe.

THE. ACTON

FREE PRESS

PHONE 853-2010



ted in 1875 and published every Wednesday Willow St., Acton, Ontario. Member of the Bureau of Circulation, the CWNA and OWNA. Advertising rates on request. Subscrip-tions parable in advance, \$4.00 in Canada; \$7.00 Oc. Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office department, Ottown. Advertising is accepted on condition that, in the event of typographical allowance for signature, will not be will be paid for at the applicable rate. In the event of a typographical error advertising goods

David R. Dille Publisher

Free Press

back 188488

years ago

Taken from the lesue of the Actor Free Press of Thursday, February 6, 1967. The Duke of Devoushire Chapter of I.O.D.E. met at the home of Mrs. A. Young, Church St., with the regent, Mrs. Matthews presiding. Mrs. Mainprise 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 viceregent, Mrs. F. S. Blow; second viceregent, Mrs. W. Wolfe; treasurer, Mrs. E. Cooper; recording secretary, Mrs. C. Cook; assistant recording secretary, Mrs. E. Barr; corresponding secretary, J. Graham; press secretary, Mrs. C. . 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. Gardiner; 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 a month old age pension for everyone, drew a good deal of comment but no corroboration from official circles in

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 the 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 Hynds; secretary-treasurer, C. Winterbon; 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

take from the issue of the Acton Pres Press of Thursday, February 4, 1892.

The C.P.R. is going to build a big allway station in the heart of Winnipeg. There is a balance on the right side over. \$30,000 in the equaty treasury 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 committees for 1892: finance, Menzies Kennedy, Webster: roads and bridge Pettit, Atkinson, Hutcheon, Peatherstone, Reynolds; county buildings, Pet

tit, Atkinson, Buck, Felan, Menzies, Printing," Buck, Warren, Pettit, Kennedy, Atkinson; education, Husband, Lowry. Webster; special communications, Lowrey, Featherstone, Warren, Hutcheon; railroads, Roberts, Webster, Kennedy, Pettit, Buck, Atkinson.

A petition signed by scores of citizens asking the council to purchase a plano 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. Speling. 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 inthe political principles which he so ard-

ently 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

ACTON BAPTIST CHURCH Founded 1842

Pastor: Rev. Stanley Gammon Res. 144 Tidey Ave., Ph. 853-1615 Friday, February 10 - World Day of

Prayer 230 f.m. Service in Acton Baptist Church. SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1967

10.00 a.m.-Churh School and Adult 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 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

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

EVANGEL 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 Ambasesdors.

Friday, 6.45 p.m. - Crusaders.

News

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

TRINITY CHURCH

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 Reun-

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 Eng-

lish Service. Saturday - Bible Classes, 10-12.30 a.m. Everyone Welcome

THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR **ANGLICAN**

Corner Willow St. and St. Alban's Drive Rev. Ritchie McMurrey, 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 per-

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, PREBRUARY 12, 1967

9.00 a.m.-Holy Eucharist.

10.30 a.m.—Church School. 10.30 a.m.-Matins and Penisontial Service. Address.

WEDNESDAY, PEBRUARY IS 10.00 a.m.-Holy Eucharist for shift workers, mothers with small children and housewives.

7.30 p.m.—Evensong: "The Homes Mye-tery of Life and Death".

PRINE PRINCS Moffet 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

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.

Centennial Picture Gallery

short 100 years later.

mond Lowes.



to save the Niagara Escarpment -

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 oldfashioned 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

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.