

## Recreation experiment...

We'll be watching with interest the decision of the Board of Parks Management and Recreation Committee to hire a man to manage arena and parks instead of a recreation director.

It's the contention of the combined boards Acton needs a worker more than an organizer. They believe most organizations can get together and take care of themselves, thus ruling out a recreation director.

This, of course, is the direct opposite to the thinking of the recreation director, Howard Pearce. He recommended that Acton employ both a recreation director and arena manager. He warned if only the latter was hired the board couldn't expect him to organize programs, make liaison with community groups, act as a staff trainer and still manage a facility as active as the community centre.

There is of course an undercurrent playing on these opinions which isn't visible to the average observer. Two of the three directors employed, objected to spending so much time looking after the arena when they were train-

ed to organize recreation programs.

There was also friction with the curling club, which felt since they were paying for it they were entitled to good curling ice. None of the directors was a qualified ice maker and they indicated to us at least they resented the attitude of some curlers when ice wasn't at its best.

It's quite possible this objection to the job will vanish if the curlers build their own premises as they now plan. However it is still unlikely Acton would ever be anything but a training ground for recreation directors on their way up to bigger and better opportunities.

Certainly the move by the combined boards is an experiment but it has proved worthwhile in other places. Hiring Harold Townsley to take the new post solved some of the problems since he is acquainted with both ends of arena and parks management — practical and administrative.

However, Harold will have a large load on his shoulders taking care of facilities which are the scene of more activity each year.

## Free Press Editorial Page

## Get in there and fight...

Every so often someone approaches the editor with an idea for a real shocker of an editorial, something that will set the hackles on peoples' necks bristling with indignation and be disruptive enough to disturb most of the community.

You could compare these "disturbers" to a boy who throws a rock into a placid mill pond to watch the ripples spread until they envelop the entire surface. It's amusing and shows that a stone thrown in the right place can affect almost everything.

The Goderich Signal-Star apparently runs into the same type of person over in Western Ontario, which goes to prove people don't change much in spite of their geographical location. However, the editor of the Goderich paper isn't impressed. He says:

"There are times when a sharp prod or an equally effective word of praise can get good results when seemingly nothing else will do. There is a time for heaving to the line and letting the

chips fall where they may, and when that time comes, the axe will swing.

"Meanwhile, those who clamor for the 'good old hellfire and brimstone' kind of editorial column tend to forget that the rabid, partisan, emotional editorials of yesteryear would make us laugh ourselves sick today.

"Actually, we believe those who want the 'disturber' type of editorial are looking for amusement, 'kicks' or have a vindictive desire to have someone else throw their snowballs for them.

"Get in there and fight boy, we'll hold your coat," they urge.

"Welcome to the fray. You are cordially invited to metaphorically roll up your sleeves, spit on your hands and wade in with your Irish up. Write your editorial. Sign your name and address.

"If we think it is worth publishing, it will appear in the editorial column under your name, and we will hold your coat while you get in there, boy, and fight, fight, fight.

"Be our guest!"

## Pot pourri...

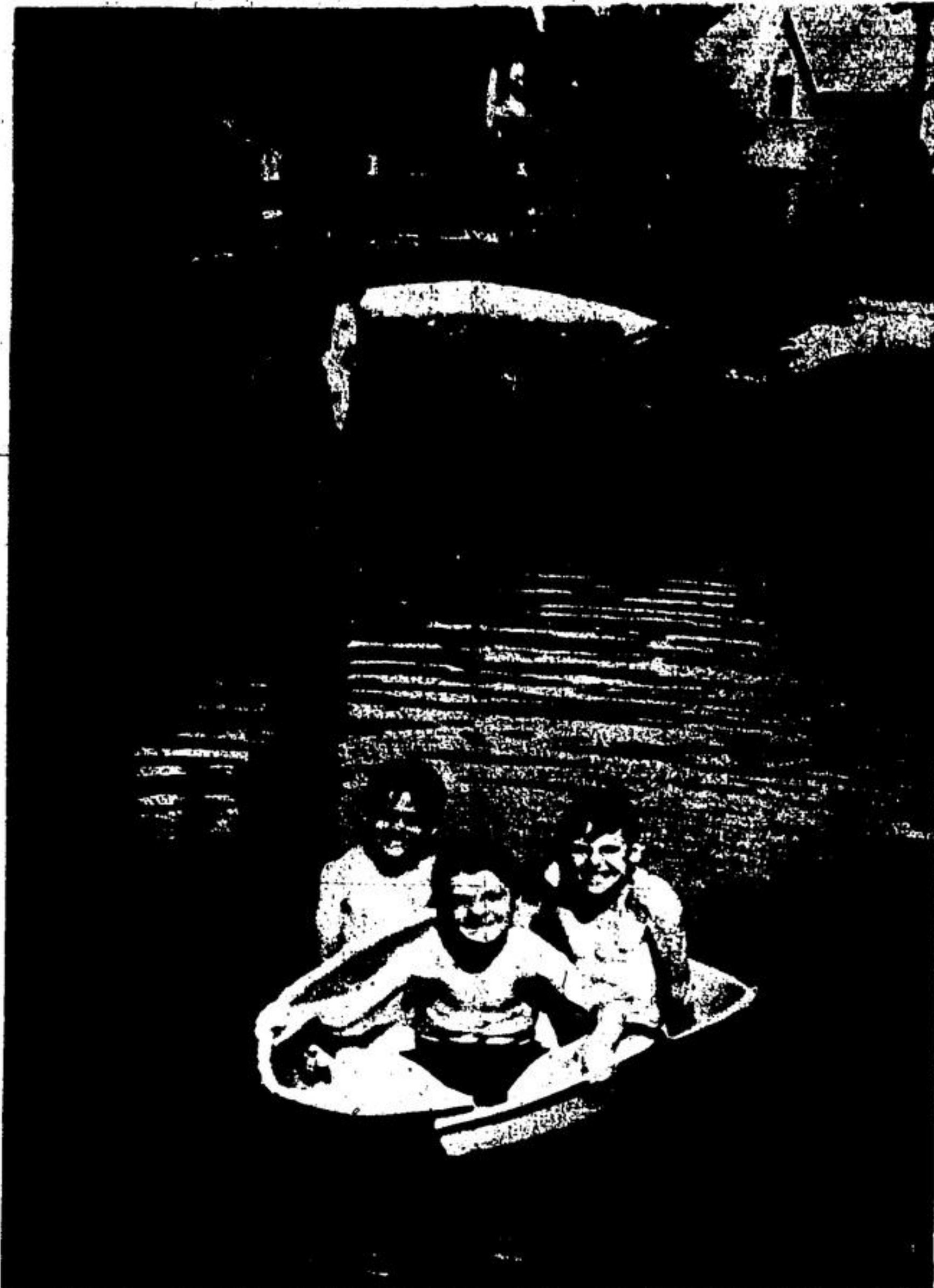
Is she or isn't she? If your secretary is wearing one of the currently popular tent dresses and you can't tell it from a maternity dress, the guessing will soon be over. Come fall, there will be more shape in dresses. Belts, which haven't been worn for several seasons, will make a comeback, to help emphasize the shape.

Reports from people in Acton and district who have attended Expo '67 praise the big exposition and urge others to attend but there are some who remain unimpressed. Most complaints seem to be centred around the queues for food and buildings. Few complained about prices.

According to the experts, prices could rise by more than the three per cent predicted by Finance Minister Sharp despite visible easing of inflating pressures in recent months. Construction costs are likely to go on climbing, house prices and rents are rising, as are appliances, clothing and many other consumer items.

If we haven't yet named a national insect, how about the mosquito?

Paper dresses are the current rage. One woman complained "I saw another woman wearing a carbon copy."



RUB-A-DUB-DUB — three boys in a tub — or is it a boat? Anyway the trio, Scott Oakley, Bernie Taylor and John Nessel are enjoying themselves in the school creek which is a real magnet for children cooling off in the unseasonably hot June weather. (Staff Photo)



## Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley

Some of you gentle readers, undoubtedly live next door to bookies; others live cheek by jowl with bootleggers. But how many of you can boast of living right next door to a couple of bank robbers? We can.

During the six years we have lived in this house, one of the many banes of my wife's existence has been the house next door. It's a crummy, old, brick house, shabby and dilapidated.

The tenants, who change about every six months, are in much the same condition as the old house. That is not said unkindly. They are poor. They are tough. It's all they can afford.

Invariably, they have great gaggles of children. Invariably, there is a good deal of screaming and some cursing, at these tads. Invariably, there is wine drinking and fighting.

But they struggle on, the men in and out of work, the women hanging endless miles of diapers on a clothes line that squeals like a banshee at every yank.

They don't bother me. They aren't malicious. One of the women used to come over and use our phone, when she wanted a cab to go and get some beer. One little boy, age three, told me to "go to hell" when I told him to stop using our lawn chair as a trampoline. But nothing serious.

The only thing that bugs me is that the rotten old board fence between the properties keeps falling down. And it always falls on my side. They don't care. It's not their fence, but the landlord's.

He doesn't care. So I prop it up. This week, however, things livened up. Last Thursday, a bank in a nearby village was held up by two armed men. They got away with about \$6,500.

Roadblocks were thrown up, as they say. My assistant department head, on her way to the dentist, was stopped three times by scowling policemen brandishing shotguns. She weighs 82 pounds and couldn't even lift \$6,500 in \$100 bills. I heard all about it Friday morning, at school.

In the meantime, back at the ranch, all hell was breaking loose. First, my wife got a call from the rector's wife.

"How are you? I mean, are you all right?"

"Fine. How is everybody at your place?"

"Fine, but are you all right?"

After more of this, it turned out that the rector's wife, and practically everybody else in town, had heard a rumor, probably springing from an erroneous radio report, that the money from the bank robbery had been found in the attic of the old Cranston home on Hugel Ave.

It just happens that we live in the old Cranston home. It was once owned by Bill Cranston, a weekly editor who went straight.

My wife did a very sensible thing. She went straight across the street for a cup of coffee with a neighbor. From there, in comparative safety, they watched the show.

Almost immediately, carloads of the curious began driving by our house, slowing down, looking hard.

By this time, three provincial cruisers and the local paddy-wagon were parked in front of our house and the house next door. Cops swarmed about the place next door, with drawn guns. The kids enjoyed it thoroughly, chattering at the police.

Our neighbor's phone rang madly, as people demanded to know whether the Smileys were really in on it.

My wife said she wouldn't look in the attic, unless the neighbor went with her. She refused on the grounds that she was afraid of the squirrels up there.

The police cars were there most of the day. Some kids came back to school from lunch and told their teacher that Mr. Smiley's house was surrounded by police cars. "Something to do with the bank robbery."

Rumors are still flying. "They" say that the money was found next door. "They" say that two men, not the tenants, were arrested there. "They" say that the guns were found.

Well, I hope "they" are all wrong and that the original rumor was right. One of these days, I'm going to get up enough nerve to go up and check the attic. And if the \$6,500 is still there, I'll send you a postcard from Crete.

## Centennial Picture Gallery



16th BATTALION WAS photographed on maneuvers on Cobble Hill before going to Camp Borden in 1916. Included in the group are Mike Kaley, George

Withers, Edgar Stuart, Fred Creamer, a Swackhamer and others from Acton. The picture was lent by A. J. McIsaac, R.R. 4, Acton.

## Free Press

## back issues

### 20 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Acton Free Press, Thursday, June 12, 1947.

The last social event of the school term for students of Acton High School was the annual school picnic last week.

Principal Stewart expressed appreciation of the work done at the school by Mrs. R. Carton and Miss E. Dryden, both of whom are resigning from the staff. Replacements on the staff of the High School are Mr. E. Hansen of Georgetown, (nee Anna Graf) at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Freeman, R.R. 2, Acton, June 4. About 50 friends and neighbors from Lorne School and Churchill were present for the occasion.

The June meeting of the Women's Association of the United Church was held at the home of Mrs. J. Raiston. Mrs. L. Agar presided and said how sorry the association was to lose three members, Mrs. John Mowat, Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. A. W. Fosbury.

A miscellaneous shower was held for Mr. and Mrs. Frank Connelly of Georgetown, (nee Anna Graf) at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Freeman, R.R. 2, Acton, June 4. About 50 friends and neighbors from Lorne School and Churchill were present for the occasion.

The June meeting of the Women's Association of the United Church was held at the home of Mrs. J. Raiston. Mrs. L. Agar presided and said how sorry the association was to lose three members, Mrs. John Mowat, Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. A. W. Fosbury.

### 50 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Acton Free Press, Thursday, June 7, 1917.

The Boy Scouts, under Scoutmaster Harwood, have been taking many enjoyable hikes into the country lately.

The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara is aiming to make the minimum salary of the ministers \$1,000 and free house tiling has been laid in Frederick Street to be used in connecting up the sewers at the corner of Mill Street to draw off more effectively the surface drainage at that point. The damage to Dr. Bell's property and the annoyance to pedestrians at that place have been considerable.

The Duke of Devonshire Chapter of the I.O.D.E. offered two prizes, one to the girl and the other to the boy of public school for writing the best essays on "Our Empire". These were won by Isabel McNiven and Willie Stewart, who read their essays at the meeting of the chapter on Victoria Day.

Rev. H. W. Avison, M.A., B.D., has been stationed at Welland and Rev. R. S. E. Large, B.A., B.D., of Hamilton is coming to the charge of the Methodist Church here.

The University of Toronto will establish a department of Military Instruction.

Married: Brown-Coleman. On Tuesday, May 29, 1917 at the home of Mr. James A. Coleman, uncle of the bride, at Hamiota, Man., by Rev. W. Ferguson. Rev. James Ralston Brown, B.A., of Halkirk Alta., youngest son of Mr. A. H. Brown, Acton, to Ethel, only daughter of Mr. John S. Coleman, late of Acton.

## Free Press

## Church News

**TRINITY CHURCH**  
(The United Church of Canada)  
Minister: Rev. John May, B.A., B.D.  
Organist: Mr. George Elliott, M.A., Ph.D.

SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 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.)

Sunday, June 25 — Sacrament of Holy Communion — Both Churches.  
All Welcome

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

SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 1967  
10.00 a.m.—Church School and Adult Class.  
11.15 a.m.—Morning Worship. "Both Lord and Christ."  
7.00 p.m.—Evening Service. "The Fall of Man."  
Wednesday, 7.30 p.m.—Prayer and Bible Study.  
Thursday, 7.30 p.m.—Choir Practice.  
Thought for the week: Your faith should show in your face.

**THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR**  
ANGLICAN  
Corner Willow St. and St. Alban's Drive  
Rev. Ritchie McMurray, M.A., S.T.B.

SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 1967  
THE PATRONAL FESTIVAL OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR  
9.00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist.  
10.30 a.m.—Church School.  
10.30 a.m.—The Holy Eucharist of St. Alban, Martyr.  
Saturday, June 24 — The Nativity of St. John the Baptist, Patron of all Canada.  
10.00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist.

Taken from the issue of the Acton Free Press, Thursday, June 9, 1892.

Acton will have a grand celebration on Dominion Day.

The contractor is now making the excavations for the foundation of the new school.

The planting of shade trees have received considerable attention in different sections of the country this spring.

The foundations for Messrs. W. R. Kenley's new residence on Church St. and J. P. Worden's on Parke Ave. are completed.

The telephone deal, by which the Ontario Telephone Company is to be absorbed by the Bell, was practically consummated last night at the annual meeting of the former. There was a good attendance of shareholders and president Kendry's report placed before the meeting in a very concise way the present position of the company and the reasons for the deal in which the directors are leading. After a very full and frank discussion, the report was unanimously adopted.

Prof. Campbell, who is at present rustiating in the vicinity of Credit Forks; paid Erin a short visit last week. It takes a thinker to make another thinker think.

### 100 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, June 15, 1867.

The first of July next having been fixed by Royal Proclamation as the day of the Union of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, has been on that account set apart as a day of general rejoicing and declared a public holiday. There will be a parade or review on that day of the whole Volunteer force of Canada at the respective head quarters of the different Corps, Companies, Battalions or Brigades as may be most convenient to the force and a feu de joie shall be fired in honor of the occasion. Officers shall receive their next pay and non-commissioned officers and men fifty cents each. The Provincial Secretary also gives official notice to all Her Majesty's loving subjects in the present Province of Canada, that they are invited to celebrate the 1st of July next as a day of rejoicing. To this invitation the loyal people of Canada and of Old Halton in particular will not be slow in responding, and we trust every man will make it a day of rejoicing and a day long to be remembered as the Natal Day of a Great Nation, the birth day of renovated Canada, a Canada commencing under better auspices than that of 1841.

We trust the whole Volunteer force of Halton will assemble at the Headquarters, Milton, as there could be no better day for their assembling, and we are sure that Milton will provide accommodations for them. We would recommend that a committee be formed, as on the Queen's Birthday, and that a voluntary subscription be raised for games, fireworks, and other objects. We would also suggest that this committee meet soon, as the time for organizing is but short.

**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, JUNE 18, 1967  
9.45 a.m.—Church School for ages 3 to 15.  
11.00 a.m.—Divine Worship and Dedication of Memorial Gifts. Sermon Theme: "Their Name Liveth For Evermore."

Sunday, June 25, 11 a.m. — Summer Quarterly Celebration of Holy Communion.  
Everyone Most Welcome.

**BETH-EL**  
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH  
Acton, Ontario.

SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 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

**MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
(Georgetown)

SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 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.A.O.C. 33 Churchill Road  
Rev. S. M. Thomas, Pastor, 853-7715

SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 1967  
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School.  
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.  
7.00 p.m.—Evangelistic Service. Continuing on the subject of the war in the Middle East, in the light of Bible prophecy.  
Tuesday, 8 p.m.—Prayer and Bible Study.  
Thursday, 8 p.m.—Christ Ambassadors.

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