

What about Expo...?

Two days with the Chorallers at Expo, the big show on the St. Lawrence River, hardly qualifies the editor as an authority on international expositions. However, we've been receiving many inquiries from people interested in travelling to Montreal for the fair on our opinion of it, so it might be in order to answer a few questions.

Is it worthwhile travelling the 400 or so miles to attend?

In my opinion it is not only worthwhile but anyone would be foolish to pass up the chance to attend. This is something like no other fair you've ever seen. The atmosphere, the colors, its cosmopolitan aura, must make Expo the biggest and perhaps the best thing that ever happened to Canada as a nation.

If you're not interested in entertainment, music, dancing, international relationships, travel, broadening your mind or just plain fun, well then stay home by all means.

Is it expensive?

Travelling any distance can be quite expensive but you can gauge spending by the thickness of your pocketbook. There is a wide range of prices for accommodation and food starting at reasonable and going to the exorbitant.

You could spend weeks at Expo with no other expense than your passport entry fee, food and lodging. The buildings are jammed with things to see and at no cost and if you have an historical or a jet-age view of man your days will be filled.

What pavilion did you like best?

My favorite of those I was able to enter was the Bell Telephone pavilion, not because of the display but principally for the unusual and colorful film on Canada. It aroused patriotic passions I never knew existed and gave a new insight into this country which even visitors from other countries sensed.

The film in itself is almost worth the trip to Montreal.

I also liked the Mexican pavilion, the Christian pavilion, the Soviet pavilion and the Canadian Pacific pavilion, the latter again for its excellent film.

There was not enough time to see outstanding pavilions from the United States, Czechoslovakia, Great Britain, France, Italy and other countries. There were large line-ups at all of them and we weren't able to squeeze them into the itinerary.

How about transportation?

Transport to and from the apartments where we stayed was unreliable on the return trip but once on the Expo grounds you had your choice of the Expo Express, the Mini-rail, auto trains, pedal carts, hovercraft, boats and plain old Shanks' Mare. The first and last cost nothing so we used them most especially the latter.

What did you find most frustrating?

The inability to cover enough ground in the short space of two days. I was not able to visit the amusement centre La Ronde or anything just as you entered the gate. It would take at least a week to cover the grounds alone completely without being discriminated.

You can't imagine all the things there are to see until you are right in the middle of it.

How'd you get along with the French Canadians?

I found them most hospitable and helpful. I saw no separatists or bomb throwers and everyone I ran into but one was bilingual and he did his translating through his wife.

Americans at Expo were enchanted by the Gallic atmosphere which at least one Chorallier told me he found less stifling than Ontario's. This, of course, is a matter of choice.

Did you visit Montreal?

No. Unfortunately I wasn't able to see the modern metropolis and it has been at least 18 years since I visited the city last. Some of the Choralliers did, however, and their reports were alike in praising its progress. Modern freeways bisect the city where once narrow roads made travel difficult. The older parts are full of history. Like any large city Montreal has its seamy side but much is being done by an imaginative administration.

When is the best time to go to Expo?

If the weekend we were there is any indication of the crowds try and visit the fair during the week. If this is impossible arrive early with a planned itinerary and get going. Washroom facilities are adequate and clean and easy to find.

These few questions and answers might give the impression the writer is an Expo public relations man. It is quite possible someone could go and not like this Canadian production. So far we've met no one with a poor opinion of it.



PHILEMON WRIGHT taking first raft down the Ottawa River, 1806. In 1800 he came to the district that is now Hull, Quebec and settled there. Wright, born in Massachusetts, brought with him 25 men, ample capital, livestock and tools. The settlement became known as Wright's Village or Wrightstown. By 1804 Wright had set up a grist mill, sawmill, smithy, tailor shop, bakery and tannery. He took the first raft of square timber from the Ottawa Valley to Montreal. The journey took 35 days through the unknown rapids and the raft's

safe arrival at Montreal signalled the inauguration of the Ottawa Valley lumber trade. Later he had a steamboat built for him, The Union of Ottawa, which became the first steamboat on the Ottawa. Wright and his associates were granted one quarter of the Township of Hull, and for his efforts in cultivating hemp he was granted an additional 1200 acres. Hull grew into a strong community in the space of a few years and Wright became known as the Father of the Ottawa.

Sugar and Spice

by Bill Smiley



"Don't tell me there aren't any creative writers in Canada. The country is crawling with them. More than 100 entries for the Smileys-to-Expo guest column have arrived, and they're still pouring in.

My wife thought all along it was rather an ill-conceived project, or as she put it, "a dumb idea", and I'm beginning to agree with her. One of the chief hitchhikes is that I forgot to organize some judges. So I'm it.

So, first of all, I must read them all, some twice, some thrice. This is going to absorb about 100 hours, and the whole idea in the first place was that I'd get a holiday. Something wrong there, somewhere.

Secondly, all those who don't win, along with their families and friends, are going to hate me for life. It's easy enough to make enemies without deliberately alienating about 2,000 people.

And thirdly, its costing me \$25 to acquire 100 hours of work, and 2,000 hostile natives. Sort of silly, isn't it?

However, I dunnit and I'm glad. The Toronto Telegram News Service has kicked in another \$25 and a lot of people have had a lot of fun taking a whack at writing a column.

And I shouldn't complain about it being work. It's fun. Especially delightful is the fantastic variety of both writers and subject matter. The writers are of all sexes and all ages from 16 to 76. And they wax eloquent on everything from pheasants to families from taxes to toenails.

Thanks, too, for the many warm and friendly personal messages enclosed. It's kind and thoughtful, even though it won't win a prize. What the columns have proved to me, once again, is that there's a great deal of good humor, good spirit, and good intelligence in our country.

The entries vary in many other ways. Some are quietly humorous. Others are sardonic or ironic. Some are dead serious, some angry, some passionate. (Not in that way, Mum).

Some were written on ordinary ruled paper, while the breakfast dishes rotted in the sink. Others were immaculate.

ly typed, submitted flat in manuscript form, with return envelopes enclosed. Some writers want a pen name used, others want their names in big, bold type.

They come from office workers, farm wives, students and grandmothers. Some people submitted as many as three columns. Some are ungrammatical and hilarious. Others use impeccable English, but are dull. Some are religious, others ribald.

One gentleman writes amusingly of his two pheasants, named John and Lester, because he didn't think they'd be around long. Jim Keer of Red Deer vents his dislike of teachers in no uncertain way. A former student of mine (Hi there, Mary Graham) tells what a character her grandpa is. One entry consists of his first letter home from a lad serving in Viet Nam.

And they came from all over the country, which makes this thing a real centennial kick. Put them all together and you'd have a book. It would be ragged and uneven, but interesting, and would present a pretty good idea of what Canada and Canadians are really like.

Trouble is, so many of the columns are so good that I'm in a quandary, right up to my navel. I started to make two piles: the good ones and the rejects. The pile of rejects is two inches high, the other one two feet.

Perhaps the sensible thing to do would be to write a guest column myself, under a pseudonym, submit it to me, and declare it the winner. It wouldn't be cricket, but it would save a lot of agonizing over the final decision. Not too mention 50 bucks.

Don't worry chaps. I'll find a solution. Perhaps what I do with my exam papers. Take an armful to the top of the stairs and hurl them. The one that lands on the highest step gets top mark. Bear with me while I peruse. Hope to announce the winner next week.

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, July 10, 1947.

Council promptly dealt with another problem in the Wartime Housing plans at a special meeting Friday. Tony Seyuk had refused money offered him for a right of way. Council felt the building of these houses could not be delayed and instructed the clerk to have prepared a by-law to expropriate.

A quantity of securities and an undetermined amount of cash was taken by three armed robbers who held up the Campbellville bank.

Mr. and Mrs. Michelle of Toronto and Mr. Alf Long gave a demonstration of archery on the tennis courts. Mr. Long scored a perfect end.

A galaxy of summer flowers decked Knox church for the marriage of Dora Joyce Hansen to Howard Dixon Coles. The bride's brother presided at the organ and her sister Mrs. Clarence Coles was matron of honor. Miss Inez McLellan was bridesmaid and little Carol Hansen flower girl.

St. Joseph's Church formed the setting for a lovely summer wedding when June Isabel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Talbot, became the bride of John McHugh, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. McHugh. Miss Shirley Marchmont was bridesmaid. Rev. Father Morgan officiated with Russell Arbie and Edward McGilloway serving as altar boys. The Misses Elma, Rena and Eveleen Braida, Olga Dyriv, and Marie Parent sang.

Y.M.C.A. officers elected: hon. pres., A. Mason, W. J. Beatty; president John Greer, vice Thos. Jones, treasurer R. Bean, secretary J. F. Royston, committee chairmen, E. S. Force, F. Terry, E. S. Cooper, Henry Arbie, Dr. D. Garrett.

50 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, July 12, 1917.

The situation in China is fast growing more warlike.

Another British air raid was made over Belgian towns.

Mr. Thos. Rogerson's mare foaled twin colts which are in splendid health. Visitors to his Esqueping farm to see the sprightly youngsters are numerous.

The candidates who wrote entrance examinations at Acton were all successful with the exception of one, with Maxy Bell heading the list. Miss Minnie Bennett's successful pupils were Maxwell Bell, Agnes Dobbie, Charles Mann and Willie Stewart, all with honors; Charles Anderson, Elmer Henderson, Willie Kaley and Hazel McDonald.

Miss Olla Armstrong, Brussels, has been engaged as teacher of the "senior" primary room. Miss Florence Atcheson will teach third book and boys' high school physical culture for \$600 and Miss Gladys Keeling will teach junior primary for \$550. There were 29 applications.

New lines of Panama hats in today.

C. C. Speight, Acton — You don't have to wait to get the money together. Make a small first payment, and have a Grafonola delivered to your home at once. You will wonder how you could have been without a Grafonola (record player) before.

The new verandahs add to Mr. W. R. Kenney's residence on Church St.

75 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, July 14, 1892.

The terrible destruction of St. Johns, Newfoundland, by fire is a calamity.

The over-cautious and conservative opposers to the enfranchisement for women say the right of suffrage would pervert and corrupt woman's instincts and purposes, would cause division and discomfort in the home and would result in the neglect of children. In Iceland, where women have the vote, it is to be noted every child can read. These voting mothers educate their own children.

The presence of safety bicycles on our streets is becoming less rare. W. Stark now rides a fine English "Juno"; Ed Guthrie at the G.T.R. is putting daily quiet ceremony on a "Gencron"; H. Ramshaw is looking for a Branford every day; H. P. Moore rides an English machine and Master Eddie accompanies him with his neat little "Victor" safety. There are several visitors in town with wheels. Among them is W. P. Brown of Toronto who mounts his pneumatic "Comet" with considerable pride.

Mr. Miller, the enthusiastic superintendent of Osprige Sabbath Schools, has introduced the total abstinence pledge.

A by-law exempting from taxation the business and property of Arnold Brothers, glove manufacturers, corner Mill and Willow Sts., for ten years was passed by Council.

The corner stone of the new school was laid by members of the board in a quiet ceremony. Copies of the Free Press, Mill, Globe and Empire and current coins were placed in a glass jar and deposited in the stone. The front of the stone bears the date of its erection.

The Glorious Twelfth was very differently observed in Acton.

100 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, Milton, July 4, 1867.

Confederation Day was quietly but loyally kept in the good town of Milton. The Volunteers assembled and fired a feu de joie in honor of the natal day of Confederated Canada and about 1-p.m. the pupils of Bell's School, accompanied by their relatives, entered town in vehicles with flags flying. Milton school children arrived on the picnic ground in Collins' Bush shortly after. Most of the townspeople wended their way thither and spent a very pleasant afternoon. The young people enjoyed the swing and games, and on the platform there was a loyal speech from Mr. Dewar, and singing and dialogues by the school children. The Committee desire to express their thanks to Mr. White for the lumber used on the platform, and the use of his teams in drawing it. Flags were flying in different parts of the town, among others over the residences of Dr. Carter, Mr. White, and Mr. Racey whose place was brilliantly illuminated in the evening. After this followed a bonfire in Market Square, and the midnight performance of the Swiss bell-ringers closed the day.

Mr. D. Christie sails today from Quebec for Great Britain, whence he will return in a few weeks, with a large and attractive stock of millinery, dry goods, etc.

Centennial Picture Gallery



LIKE TODAY, Acton Band played a prominent part in the town's celebrations in Acton's early days. Dusty streets and dirt roads didn't deter them from heading all kinds of parades including the

one (top) down Bower Avenue walks. The camera caught them on the town hall steps (middle) and below it looks like the start of a march on Mill St. Know anyone?

Free Press Church News

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

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, JULY 16, 1967
Combined Summer Services in Trinity United Church. Preacher Rev. Gordon B. Turner.
10.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
11.15 a.m.—Churchill United Church (Churchill Rd. N.) Morning Worship. Sermon Subject — "Towards an Understanding of Prayer."

BETH-EL CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
Acton, Ontario.
SUNDAY, JULY 16, 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

ACTON BAPTIST CHURCH
Founded 1842
Pastor: Rev. Stanley Gammon
Res. 144 Tildey Ave., Ph. 853-1615
SUNDAY, JULY 16, 1967
10.00 a.m.—Church School and Adult Class.
11.15 a.m.—Morning Worship. "Can We be Sure?"
No Evening Service during July and Aug. 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.

MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH
(Georgetown)
SUNDAY, JULY 16, 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

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

EVANGEL PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE
P.A.O.C. 33 Churchill Road
Rev. S. M. Thoman, Pastor, 853-2715
SUNDAY, JULY 16, 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 Ambassadors.

SUNDAY, JULY 16, 1967
Trinity VIII
10.00 a.m.—The Holy Eucharist. The Rev. Eric C. Mills is this morning's Celebrant and preacher.

Attend the Church of Your Choice Sunday

THE ACTON FREE PRESS
PHONE 853-2010
Business and Editorial Office

Founded in 1875 and published every Wednesday at 39 Willow St., Acton, Ontario. Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulation, the CWNA and OWNA. Advertising rates on request. Subscriptions payable in advance. HRO in Canada. \$7.00 in all countries other than Canada; single copies 15c. Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa. Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with reasonable allowance for signature, will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the applicable rate. In the event of a typographical error advertising goods or services at a wrong price, goods or services may not be sold. Advertising is merely an offer to sell and may be withdrawn at any time.

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