

Lift up your hearts . . .

Thanksgiving Day arrives in Canada after the harvest is in the barns and the earth is clothed in a coat of many colors.

Canadians will be sitting down to the traditional meal of turkey and all the trimmings. We'll stuff ourselves and mouth a few pious platitudes, never really appreciating our land of plenty.

Perhaps if we had to trade places with someone in a land less blessed we would appreciate the bounty bestowed on us.

In centennial year we can think back to the days when this land was a forest of trees and rock. Sturdy pioneers came on foot, by ox team and wagon with

a real faith. They carved a home in the wilderness. We say carved because they had primitive tools but large hearts and a vision of what Canada would look like in the future.

They were not discouraged by setbacks. The separatists and rebels of their day were every bit as real and the problems as large as we face now. They surmounted them.

We can, too.

Lift up your hearts. The Canadian people will be made strong in adversity, tempered by disagreements, sobered by a realization of our blessings.

There is much to be thankful for.

Salute to Firefighter . . .

It would be sufficient to be thankful that Acton has an efficient fire fighting brigade on the eve of the Thanksgiving weekend but Fire Prevention Week, an annual reminder, adds special significance.

Activities of the Acton Firefighters are not limited to fighting fires. They assist minor sports in Acton and district in a very tangible way as well as running a financial campaign to assist

muscular dystrophy. Their efforts on behalf of the community shows an awareness of community life and a desire to share in making the town and district a better place to live.

We salute Acton Firefighters and brigades everywhere during Fire Prevention Week. Heed their advice, take advantage of their experience with fire and check your own home for hazards.

The life you save may be your own!

How about the north? . . .

It is time residents of the north end of this riding took a cold, calculating look at the platforms of the various political parties contesting the provincial election.

Since Halton has been divided into two sections — east and west — Acton and its environs is almost isolated from other voices in the North. Most of the politicians will be concentrating their efforts on the south end of the county where votes are more plentiful.

The north end of the riding will be taken for granted.

It is time the various political parties realized that once you climb the escarpment into Nassagaweya and Esquevas you aren't in the "bush". The population may not be as dense but voters are just as keen — if not keener — than those to the south. Voters in the

north end of the riding could very well decide the issue.

We are a little tired of the plums going south of us. We think it's time for us to stick our necks out and demand some of the goodies being passed around by the various governments.

We're a trifle weary of being overlooked.

Someone said that when they divided the riding up they drew a line right through the centre of the county. Then it looked as if the east side didn't want us, so they gave us to the west end.

As we said before it's time we made our influence felt more, threw a little weight around.

What are the various candidates going to do for the north end of the riding?

Let's find out before we vote!

Editorial notes . . .

Somebody who is good at arithmetic can figure out how many months it is since the Throne Speech back in May, in which the government proposed a "task force" on agriculture. He can also figure out how long it is since back at the time of the Ottawa march by farmers that names of people on the "force" would be announced shortly.

Remember that old expression "There oughta be a law"? If it isn't heard so often nowadays, that's because there probably is one.

Columnist Mary Humphries, writing in Alaska Highway News about proposed regional districts, thinks Canadians need less government, not more. "Maybe we hardy vigorous northerners should start a new trend," she says, "and see how much we can do without the government."

Centennial Picture Gallery



PICTURED AT ACTON FAIR shortly after the first World War are four distinguished Acton residents of the time, fair president George Havill, Free Press editor, Mr. H. P. Moore, the Hon. David Henderson M.P., and fair secretary George Hynds. The picture was part especially for this series by Mr. Henderson's granddaughter, the former Edna Henderson, now Mrs. Herbert Collins of Toronto. Mr. Henderson retired as a member of parliament of 30 years' standing exactly 50 years ago.



THIS ABANDONED ROCKING CHAIR could be symbolic of many things as it sits on the boardwalk of a deserted ghost town near Acton. The late President of the United States, John F. Kennedy, popularized the rocker while he

lived, but this one could do with more than a new image. Perhaps its sturdy rocker was damaged conveying a sturdy pioneer into a land of dreams . . .

(Staff Photo)



Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley

If you think it's tough trying to get a son or daughter ready for college, cooled out, and settled in, you should try it with a wife who hasn't been there for 20 years.

It's an exhausting experience, emotionally and financially. All the kids want is that you should take all their stuff down, help unload it, press a large sum upon them, and disappear back to Hicksville, so you'll stop embarrassing them in front of their new class-mates.

With Momma it's not that simple. First comes the tremendous decision itself, comparable to Moses making up his mind to lead the "Children" back to the Promised Land. There are surges of confidence, but they are outweighed by sudden despairs.

"My brain is rusty. I'll never make it. They've probably lost my files. There'll be a rule refusing people over 30. The course is most likely a lot harder now. I'll feel like a fool with all those kids in miniskirts and eye-shadow." And so on.

You patiently point out that rust can be removed; any half-wit can pass fourth-year; universities never lose anything, except the letter—you wrote them last week; she's more mature and the course will be a snap; she's better-looking now than she was in third year, away back.

Thus bolstered, she sends off the application. Nothing happens. Fear and frustration mount. So father has to write a letter in his inimitable style, with force and firmness. Straight back comes the good word.

This is the real crisis. She can't believe it! She's accepted. It's no longer castles in Spain. And the real panic begins.

"It's ridiculous. I can't leave you and Kim alone. You'll burn the house down. You'll forget to put out the garbage. You'll die of malnutrition. We can't afford it. You can't get along without me." And so on.

This, of course, is rank cowardice. She simply is afraid to get her feet wet in the big, cold world from which, like all housewives, she has been sheltered all these years by guess who.

So she goes to visit her mother for three days, as a sort of trial run. Comes home and is a bit dashed to find the house still standing, garbage out on schedule, lawn cut, kitchen tidy and Kim and I living like Oriental potentates.

Quote of week . . .

"Today, we live in an age when we can no longer take the simplest thing for granted: the air we breathe, the water we drink, the green grass that grows all around. If we want fresh air, pure water, uncontaminated grass, we have to provide for these things, plan ahead, engage in scientific research."

—Agriculture Minister J. J. Greene

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, October 2, 1947.

Force Electric Products of Acton are constructing an extension to their present building on Church St. This addition to the plant will be used eventually for the manufacturing of electrical appliances.

The athletes at the High School enjoyed cool but sunny weather for the annual field day in the park. Competition was keen in all events. Considerable rivalry was evident between the three teams into which the school had been divided.

The Blue team, captained by Jim Spielvogel and June Watkins, won the greatest number of points, edging out by a narrow margin the Reds captained by Moe Blow and Joan Coles. The Whites led by John Agar and Patsy Chev were only four points behind the winners. Individual champions were Jacqueline Chev, Don Davidson, Patsy Chev, Jim Spielvogel, Joan Coles, Moe Blow; runners-up Helen Somerville, Phillip McCristall, Ray Webster, Dena Braida, Crawford Douglas, Shirley Elliott, John Agar.

75 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, October 6, 1892.

The Township Council has decided to make some very necessary improvements to the big hill at Silver Creek. The loose stones will be removed, the ditches cleaned and a good coat of gravel put on.

Acton Union Exhibition was a good show, especially of livestock, but bad weather prevented a large attendance on Tuesday and Wednesday in the park. When morning broke and the ground was seen to be white with snow and the temperature flirting with zero, the spirits of those interested also had a downward tendency. However, the result was really better than expected.

Edison's phonograph was on the grounds and many took the opportunity of hearing it. The exhibit of harnesses, robes and harnessmen's requisites by Matthews' Harness Emporium was creditable. The Singer sewing machines did some wonderful work. In collection of apples, Mr. Alex Waldo had no less than 35 varieties.

In the dairy department the quality and quantity were very noticeable. A splendid lot of butter and cheese was shown. There was a fine exhibit of animals, machinery and equipment.

The Nassagaweya Fall show had a good attendance and the day passed off pleasantly. The only casualty was in the novelty race when two young men got the wheels of their buggies locked with the result that one of the rigs was pretty badly wrecked.

Lord Tennyson's illness is causing anxiety. He is suffering from influenza and gout.

Messrs. Henderson, McRae and Co. invite the public to their fall millinery openings on Saturday.

50 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, October 4, 1917.

The Acton fair has made wonderful strides and is now rated as one of highest class shows of its size in Ontario. The entry list was the highest and of the best quality since the inception of the fair. Between four and five thousand people crowded into the grounds and with automobiles and vehicles, every inch of space was utilized.

In the parade the Boy Scouts presented a fine appearance and the school children in their summer garb, each bearing a flag, looked very pretty indeed. They sang a number of patriotic selections which were loudly applauded. Acton Citizen's Band brought up the rear. In president Havill and secretary Hynds the fair has very skilled and efficient officers supported by a body of directors who work harmoniously.

The Electrical Department of the Corporation made a display of electric lamps and fixtures, wired and connected. It made an attractive exhibit.

The midway had its usual babel of noises and attractions.

The Fair Night Concert was a fitting climax and numbers were turned away. The Ionic Quartette of Brampton and Charles Leroy Kenney, whose star is in the ascendant, were manifestly successful. The financial returns reached a high water mark.

First draft, men from 20 to 34, unmarried or widowers without children, will be called next week.

Harold Wiles will convert his ice cream parlor into a tea room for the winter. A memorial service will be held in Ballinacard church in memory of the late Private Clarence Hume who was recently killed in action in France.

The Sunday School building at Speyside through the initiative of Mr. Heyrn Sayers, presented an improved appearance.

100 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, Milton, October 3, 1867.

Mr. Jay Conrad, jeweller, Milton, will give another lecture on Phrenology, Electricity, etc. at Bell's School house, Nelson, on Wednesday next, the 9th inst. At the close of the lecture, there will be a spelling match open to the world, and a clock will be given to the successful one, the clock to remain in the school as the property of the section donated in the name of the victor. Mr. Conrad has presented a clock to the Zimmerman school at the close of his second lecture.

To No. 6 Co., 20th Halton Battalion: The members of the Company who have not already done so are requested forthwith to return into store at my office the rifles, bayonets and scabbards, snap-caps, muzzle stoppers and ammunition in their possession, as the new Snider rifles have been received. — G. T. Bastedo, Captain.

We understand that it is contemplated to organize a literary society for Milton, to engage the attention of the young men during the winter months. We think the idea is a good one and shall give it all the encouragement in our power. The great drawback has heretofore been the want of a suitable room, but we are confident that the council room in the New Hall will be granted. A meeting for organization will take place at the Town Hall on Saturday evening next.

Free Press Church Notices

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, OCTOBER 8, 1967
Thanksgiving Sunday
9.45 a.m.—Church School for ages 3 to 15 years.
11.00 a.m.—Public Worship. Sermon Theme, "Too Late for Sacrifice."
Everyone Most Welcome

BETH-EL CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

Minister — Rev. P. Brouwer
Acton, Ontario.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 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 a.m.
Everyone Welcome

MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

81 Maple Ave., Georgetown, Ontario
Pastor: Robert C. Lohnes

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1967
9.45 a.m.—Sunday School.
11.00 a.m.—Morning Service.
7.00 p.m.—Evening Service
Wednesday, 7.45 p.m.—Prayer Meeting.
Acton 853-1956 Georgetown 877-6665

EVANGELIC PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE P.A.O.C. 33 Churchill Road

Rev. S. M. Thoman, Pastor, 853-2715

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1967
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7.00 p.m.—Evangelistic Worship.
Tuesday, 8 p.m. — Prayer Service and Bible Study.
Thursday, at 8 p.m. — Christ Ambassadors.

TRINITY CHURCH (The United Church of Canada)

Minister: Rev. Gordon B. Turner, B.A., B.D.
Organist: Dr. George Elliott, M.A., Ph. D.

SUNDAY—OCTOBER 8, 1967
Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday
10.00 a.m.—Trinity United — "Harvest Thanksgiving" A Parable. Nursery provided.
11.30 a.m.—Churchill United.
SUNDAY SCHOOL
10.00 a.m.—Junior School (to Gr. 4).
11.15 a.m.—Senior School (Gr. 5 to Gr. 8).

ACTON BAPTIST CHURCH

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1967
Thanksgiving Day
11.15 a.m.—Morning Worship "The God Who Is Father."
Our Evening Service will be shared at Hillsburg for their Anniversary. Wednesday, 7.30—Prayer & Bible Study. Thursday, 7.30—Choir Practice. Friday 7.00 p.m.—B. H. F. meets.
Text: "A contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise." Ps. 51: 17.
All Are Welcome

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, OCTOBER 8, 1967
Trinity XX
9.00 a.m.—The Holy Eucharist.
10.30 a.m.—Church School
10.30 a.m.—Morning Prayer.

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