

Few flowers would brighten...

Attractive gardens, flower beds, well-kept lawns and neat houses make Acton a pleasant place to live during the summer months.

Perhaps the town fathers could set the example by planting some decorative greenery around buildings owned by the municipality.

Guelph, for instance, has brightened up its downtown business section with huge flower pots. They add something to keep the city attractive and discourage would-be litterbugs.

Free Press Editorial Page

Come down to earth...

One writer in an Ontario Hydro publication, bemoaning the garbage which litters the earth could not restrict his horizons. He looked into space much as a seer would gaze into a crystal ball...

Remember when a summer drive in the country was a pleasure. Every year an increasing collection of broken bottles, cigarette packages, wrappers, orange and banana peelings as well as a wide assortment of junk is thrown out of car windows.

Scrap long warranty...

The five year, 50,000 mile car warranties may be a thing of the past next year. According to an article in the Canadian Automotive Trade, reports from the American car capital, Detroit, indicate 1969 model cars may have only a 24-month, 24,000 mile coverage.

Mind: Have the car companies lost faith in the product that induced them to put the 5 year, 50,000 mile warranty on them? If so, the public won't take long to lose faith in the product, too, for in many cases buyers have been induced to buy new, rather than used cars, because of the warranty.



THE PERFECT ROSE needs nothing else - it stands alone as a lovely symbol of summer. Due to the warm weather and frequent rains, roses of all types and colors are in abundance in Acton gardens.

Sugar and Spice

by Bill Smiley

An interesting and rather frightening manifestation of the times is the rapidly increasing popularity of the concept of POWER. Among the millions of words with which we are constantly bombarded by the mass media, that one pops up with alarming frequency.

There's nothing wrong with the word itself. It's not a dirty word. We don't get alarmed when we think of such terms as power plant, power boat, power drill, power of attorney, or hockey's power play.

We aren't spooked when we think of mental power or physical power or spiritual power. The word merely denotes strength.

But in the way it is used so often these days, it has more sinister connotations. It has undertones of hatred and senseless rebellion. It suggests smashing somebody or something.

We have been carefully acclimatized. We have accepted, because of timidity or indifference, the ideas of air power and union power and political power and lobby power.

And now we have Black Power and Student Power, both of them with built-in provocations to violence and brutality. The only one that seems fairly harmless is Flower Power, but even this is associated with drugs, sexual promiscuity and anarchy.

It's fairly obvious that I can't turn this pernicious tide of power by writing a column about it. But all you readers might remember once in a while that every new power group chisels away at your personal freedom as an individual, and also at the ideals of peace and brotherhood for the world.

Now, after that little sermon, I'm going to reverse my stand and come out strong for another power group. It's not a new one, but it's so feeble that it needs artificial respiration and intravenous feeding. I'm talking about Parent Power.

This used to be one of the biggest power groups in society, as we old squares well recall. Your parents told you to do something, and in most cases you did it. If you didn't you suffered the consequences.

Free Press back issues

20 years ago 75 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, July 15, 1948. Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, July 20, 1893.

A new drug which has proved effective against sleeping sickness in cattle has been announced in Britain. Field tests are expected to prove that this drug, known as M775, gives immunity for at least six months.

Work started this week on the new addition at Acton High School and the contractors have the excavations made and cement footings laid for the new classroom.

Mr. and Mrs. Ken McKinnon, Mrs. E. E. Purryman and Georgina spent a pleasant weekend at Bracohidgo and Hayville.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Ryder are holidaying at Waseja Beach.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Dilks and David Dilks spent the weekend in Toronto.

In the four provinces, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the increase of population in the twenty years 1871-1901, was 25.5 per cent, according to a recent census bulletin.

On Friday afternoon, a son of Mr. John McKinnon, Nassagaweya, with his sister, was driving to town with a load of oats, when the bolt came out of the clove, the tongue dropped, and the horses sprang forward.

Willie Smythe, aged 6 years, burned his foot badly on Monday by stepping on a stove cover which had just been removed from the stove.

The Acton Free Press celebrated its 19th birthday last Thursday. For 15 years it has been under the management of Mr. H. P. Moore. The Free Press is one of the most carefully edited and neatly printed papers on our exchange list and we extend to it our best wishes for its future prosperity.

50 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, July 18, 1918.

Here's to the man who labors and does it with a song! He stimulates his neighbors and helps the world along. When Benjamin Franklin and other Americans were planning the capture of Canada, their propaganda literature was printed in Montreal by a man named Floury Mosplat.

Repairs have been made to the park fence at the west end of Knox Ave. Why not provide a second entrance to the Park at that convenient point? It would make a shorter drive for many going to Park or Lake Avenues and would popularize driving in the park.

While cleaning one of the big plate glass windows in Conway & McLean's store on Monday morning the top of the cleaning brush came off and struck the glass. It was fractured from top to bottom.

A pot of real shamrock from Ireland is blooming in the window of the residence of the Misses Graham, Mill St. It was sent to Mrs. Orr, Bower Avenue from her former home in Coleraine, Ireland.

Today, Parent Power is on the verge of extinction, unless we can figure out something new in a hurry.

Oh, we still have a certain authority when they're little. After all, a six-year-old probably won't threaten to run away and become a hippy if he gets a smack on the bum. But don't count on it.

The kids have us on the run, and they know it. Threaten a teenager with even something as harmless as cutting the allowance or non-use of the car, and you get a threat right back that he (or she) will leave home. We don't want them to, and ruin their lives. So we knuckle under.

Kids have been running away from home for centuries, but they usually ran off to sea or off to the city to get a job. They didn't run away to Yorkville or Vancouver to become teenage pickings for the pimps and pushers.

Who's for Parent Power, and how do we get it back?

100 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, Milton, July 16, 1868.

Reply to correspondents: Midnight Reporter: We cannot insert your communication as its publication will do no good; it does not tend to the edification of the public however much it may to their amusement.

Mr. Petrie, Excise Office, was invited by a person connected with the Cornerstone Distillery to go down at night and take a bath in the wash tub. After they had done so, it being quite dark, the person left Mr. Petrie and went into another room; while away, a third party struck Petrie a violent blow with a club, inflicting a serious wound.

Mr. Petrie, Excise Office, was invited by a person connected with the Cornerstone Distillery to go down at night and take a bath in the wash tub. After they had done so, it being quite dark, the person left Mr. Petrie and went into another room; while away, a third party struck Petrie a violent blow with a club, inflicting a serious wound.

Free Press Church Notices

THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR ANGLICAN

SUNDAY, JULY 21st, 1968

CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

SUNDAY, JULY 21st, 1968

EVANGELIC PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE

SUNDAY, JULY 21st, 1968

TRINITY CHURCH

SIXTH SEASON - COMBINED SUMMER SERVICES

ACYON BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY, JULY 21st, 1968

MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY, JULY 21st, 1968

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

KNOX CHURCH, ACTON

SUNDAY, JULY 21st, 1968

SUNDAY, JULY 21st, 1968

Photos from the past



HENDERSON When Corporation Pond reflected the azure sky, was a favorite haunt for fishermen, swimmers, skaters and loafers? Here it is with the old Storey Glove Co. building reflected in its limpid waters.

THE ACTON FREE PRESS Business and Editorial Office. Includes contact information and a logo for the Acton Free Press. The logo features a shield with 'ABC' and 'THE ACTON FREE PRESS' text.