



## A place, products and people — the pulse of a community

A town: what is it?

It's Place, Products and People.

The Place - builds and surges with the swell of development throughout southern Ontario.

The Products - change, adapt and improve with modern technology and newest needs.

But People?

What they are happiest doing is being with other people. Neighborliness, long a special attribute in small towns, extends with the fact that meetings, schools, recreation and churches are all within walking distance.

Yet faraway fields, if they look any greener, aren't all that far away if you live in Acton.

For education, entertainment, research or recreation, interests that began at home can be fostered easily within not too many miles.

Some say, for a town we're over-organized. Certainly the choice is wide.

Church groups flourish. There are the L.O.D.E., W.L., Lions, Rotary, Y's Men, Legion, art group, bowling leagues, baseball, soccer and hockey leagues, square dancing club. The curling club is planning

its own new building. Acton's first golf course is scheduled to open this week.

Dances, euchres, quiltings, bazaars, bingo with the occasional concert or big show, include everyone in their realm of interest.

The Scout-Guide movement sets one age limit, the Golden Age club the other. The children enjoy bowling, dancing classes, figure skating. There's the program in the Y.M.C.A., complemented by the summer playground.

The park's a favorite spot; its year peaks at fall fair weekend. Two camp grounds draw visitors to the far end of the lake. With the visionary dredging scheme underway in the lake, and subsequent reclaimed land, possibilities include more houses - or more parkland.

The new subdivisions come with an area dedicated to parkland; only in Glenlea, so far, has best use been made of this required land.

A look into the future, with foresight of planning board, recreation commission and council, see charming walks and spacious parks in other built-up areas, and along the creek bed.

Acton's special events have always been to the tune of the Citizens' Band, which, backed by years of tradition, has never been better.

The up-and-coming young players have regular lessons with summer band camp.

Home for the musicians is the new music centre, built by themselves. Here dances and catering raise funds and there's an annual levy from town council.

Popular concerts are given regularly.

For the third time this fall, bandmaster Dr. George Elliott will be directing a massed choir from the churches at the fall fair church service.

Acton has hosted the school music festival for several years.

While there are music teachers here, appreciation of music doesn't end with the last piano or accordion recital. Nearness to Guelph, Hamilton and Toronto makes buying of season's tickets for major concerts and theatre series feasible.

While reading used to be restricted to the local library's offerings jammed on inadequate shelving, with the new centennial library came roominess, comfort - and the South Central Regional Library system. Books on special subjects can now be ordered; some will come on rotating loan.

Plans are underway for the building of a public school research centre which will house school books, tapes, films and records. Here the young people will go to work out research projects. The school's aim is a full-time librarian here to help them.

For the first time next term, the widely-recommended oral French will be taught in Acton public schools. An art specialist guides the children in their creative work; a full-time music supervisor enthuses them in his special field.

Adult night school classes have been dropped in Acton with the exception of the art class. But with easy transportation, many from here register for night school in Guelph.

Higher education? Extension courses are taken by Actonians who drive nights to three major universities - Guelph, McMaster and Waterloo. Acton students who can't obtain courses they wish here have some of the cost paid for them by the local board and they attend Guelph or Georgetown schools.

The new Sheridan Community College is also within commuting distance.

Next year the regional board of education takes over from the two local boards.

Hobbyists, antiquers, craftsmen and keen sportsmen develop with increased leisure. People travel as never before - 20 high school students are now in Europe together - and enjoy coming home.

Those who have travelled most are those who are able to recognize Acton's ideal location and corporate personality.