

SEASON'S GREETINGS

From the management and staff of the Acton Free Press

A Christmas message

Glory to God in the High St.

By Rev. Gordon Turner
Trinity United Church

A few years ago in the city of Vancouver a prominent wealthy businessman made an honest attempt to share his feelings about Christmas with the populace. He spent his own money on a huge neon billboard on which he had inscribed simply the Biblical angelic chorus, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men."

He did his "thing", and it impressed and motivated many persons I am sure.

However, as does happen in our

electronic age, the neon sign gave out before Christmas Day and one of the lights burned out. Instead of the angelic chorus it now read, "Glory to God in the HIGH ST. and on earth peace among men."

At first glance the businessman was disturbed. He called the contractors and asked that it be rectified. But before they did it, he changed his mind. He began to see that the sign, although now not authentic, went to the real heart of the Christmas spirit and meaning.

If the "glory" that we as humans is not given on the "High St." but solely in

word and song in the cathedrals of our own making - then God is really not glorified at all. All this worship and praise doesn't amount to a hill of beans unless it motivates us to live in a "worshipful way" in the street where we live.

"High St." is your street - Main St., Mill St., Bower Ave., Wilbur, Tyler etc. And that is where the stuff of Christmas must be lived out.

Ultimately that sign did more in Vancouver for Christians than any other. It got them thinking about themselves and their lives as present-day disciples of the Babe of Bethlehem.

It set them to re-evaluating their lives. What was clutter, and what was junk? What had they done for their fellow man that really counted? How were their priorities stacked... God, mankind, me (or the reverse)? Were there things that they had done that they should now rectify, while there was still time?

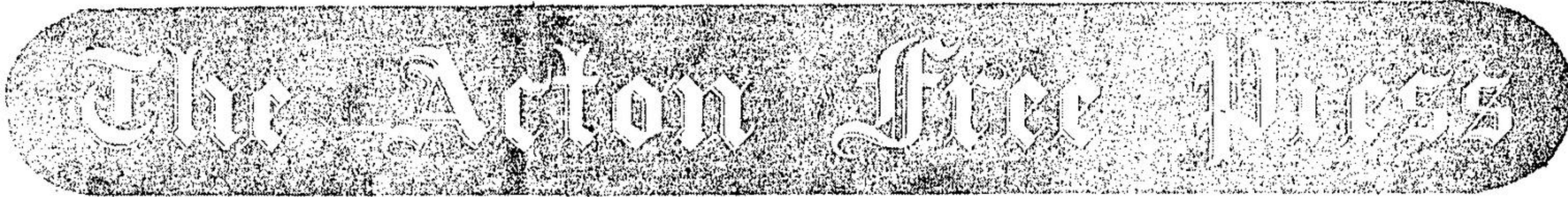
And with you I leave the rest of this Christmas thought! Are you living for the Highest on High St.? Or are you a living echo of the "Highest" and nothing more?

You decide, and that decision will lead to a blessed Christmas or simply a meaningless festival!



Shucks Santa, I'm shy!

KRISTIN SPIELVOGEL isn't sure she should accept Santa's gift at the Firefighters' Christmas party Sunday. Santa found time to give out presents there and at the Legion Hall for children of Legion members as well as visit events all around the district. —(Staff Photo)



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ACTON, ONTARIO, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1970

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Lawyer named provincial judge

William S. Sharpe, a solicitor in the Town of Milton for the past 14 years, has been named a Provincial Judge in the criminal court division for Halton.

Halton East MPP Jim Snow made the announcement Monday. The Order-in-Council appointing him a judge was dated Dec. 17. His appointment fills a vacancy on the bench following the death of Judge J. B. Green of Oakville earlier this year.

Judge Sharpe has practiced extensively in both civil and criminal matters in all courts, including the Supreme Court of Canada. A resident of Streetsville, he was born in Toronto in 1928 and graduated from Osgoode Hall Law School. He was called to the bar in 1956.



JUDGE W. S. SHARPE

OMB hear February 11

Judge Sharpe is married and he and his wife and three children live in Streetsville. He is a member of the Law Society of Upper Canada and the Canadian Bar Association, treasurer and director of Halton County Law Association, past director of the former Legal Aid plan in Halton, and a member for the past five years of the Halton County Area Committee of the new Ontario Legal Aid plan.

Ontario Municipal Board has set February 11 as the date for a public hearing on Esqueping township's controversial agricultural holding by-law 29-69.

The by-law, passed by Esqueping Council in November 1969, prevents the use of land for any other purpose than the one existing.

Council received objections either in the form of letters from individual ratepayers or petitions, that represented over 100 names last August. Twenty letters supporting the by-law were also received.

He attends Streetsville United Church where he has served as an elder for nine years, and is chairman of the Committee of Adjustment for the town of Streetsville.

Chamber head replies to Commission charges

Acton Chamber of Commerce officials were swift to react to criticism which emanated from a recent meeting of the Hydro Commission over lack of money to spend on Christmas lighting.

President John Shadbolt said Commissioner Tyler, main critic, should be quite familiar with the reason for the lack of funds this year, when compared to other years. (Mr. Tyler charged the Chamber was wasting money and not doing as much as formerly.)

Mr. Shadbolt listed three reasons for this year's lack of funds:

1. Tyler Transport has not joined the Chamber, so this income was lost.
2. The Hydro Commission has not joined the Chamber and this reduced income still further.
3. The Hydro Commission presented a bill to the Chamber

this year for the sum of \$35.11 for work done in 1967 and another for \$35.66 for work done in 1968. These were charges made before the present executive was elected, and of which they had no knowledge.

The above financial losses represent approximately one-third of the Chamber's normal income, asserted Mr. Shadbolt. He said the loss would almost have taken care of the Christmas lighting program.

Now in good shape "But the fact is Christmas lights are now in good condition and should not require any substantial renovations for the next few years," the Chamber head declared.

In reply to charges the Chamber was inactive, Mr. Shadbolt said he would like to point out the Chamber had

approximately 14 executive meetings this year, which he claimed was far more than any other year.

"As far as Mr. Tyler's comment about the Chamber being under better management before, 'when they were out to make money, not throw it away,' we find it hard to believe it is the function of the Chamber to make money. Our function is to initiate new projects whether they make or lose money," he said.

"Unlike the Hydro Commission, all work done by the Chamber executive is free. There are no wages, salaries, commissions, etc. paid to anyone on the executive," Mr. Shadbolt continued. "In fact it costs money to be on the executive."

"The Chamber feels there is really no reason to heed the criticism since complainers are

not members of the Chamber but we find it hard to understand Mr. Tyler's reasoning about free bus service in Milton. (a) The Chamber can't afford it and (b) Mr. Tyler is in a much better position to lay on a free bus service than we are."

"Finally, we feel all the remarks concerning the Chamber are in poor taste and are not interested in engaging in a slanging match," he concluded.

The Chamber president noted election of officers for 1971 will be held at the Station Hotel Wednesday, January 6 at 7 p.m. and also that tickets were still available for the New Year's dance sponsored by the Chamber at Halton Heights Country Club.

Splish, splash Thieves net cash, stamps

White Oaks Secondary School may be in line to become the second school in Halton County to have a swimming pool on campus. Vice-chairman of Halton County Board of Education Bill Priestner told the board at their meeting Thursday he had been approached by the Oakville Recreation Committee and meetings were being held.

M.M. Robinson High School was the first to have a swimming pool. The agreement concerning the use of the Burlington pool was ratified at the board recently.

Thieves took seven dollars in stamps and \$28 in cash in a break and entry at the Robert Little school Thursday night, Acton detachment of the O.P.P. reported this week.

Constable Kressler is investigating the break-in. Entry was gained by the janitor's closet.

The next day police report a quick change artist swindled a check-out teller of \$20 at the A-B Supermarket on Mill St. It is also under investigation.

Four cases of insecure premises are reported for the week, a number police call unusually high.

Police urge anyone going away for the holiday season to let them know and they will check houses while you are away.

Shoppers serenade

Wednesday evening about seven o'clock, the band will be playing Christmas carols on the town office steps. The serenade to shoppers has become an annual event, weather permitting.

Prospect Park

Will allow snowmobiles

Claims piggery illegal

The question of whether or not Nassagaweya Council's new deputy reeve-elect Don McMillan is breaking a township by-law by raising pigs on the main street of Moffat was posed at Wednesday's meeting of council by outgoing deputy reeve Gordon Agnew.

"The by-law reads that no piggery or any other obnoxious use can exist inside a village zone," said Mr. Agnew. He also stated residents had "casually mentioned" to him about the pigs in the barn although it was later understood no complaints had been made directly to the township office.

Council instructed its zoning administrator to investigate the charge.

"If we wish to pursue the issue further, our next step would be to see if it is of legal non-conforming use," said clerk Campbell Thompson. "This must be established before anything is decided."

"I agree with Mr. Thompson," said councillor Alan Ackman, "but if its use has changed since the by-law was enforced in 1967, then action should be taken. The new council should make sure gaps or openings in by-laws are closed," he added.

Acton Parks and Recreation Committee took a stand on the snowmobile question by deciding at the final meeting of the year Friday night to allow snowmobiles to use Prospect Park between the hours of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

Chairman Peter Marks said he would like to see the park used by snowmobiles as much as possible up until 9 or 9.30 at night. "If we're not going to let them on streets, we must offer alternate sites," he added.

Committee member Hugh Patterson said he could see no objection to organized activity within certain hours. Councillor Orval Chapman pointed to the Acton Snowmobile Club as "the best policing we've got."

Decision to allow snowmobiles in Prospect Park within the specified hours was unanimous and was made in the words of chairman Marks "In an effort to keep them off the streets and make it safer for all citizens of Acton."

Subdivision plan proceeds for study

The draft plan for homes on the Seynuck and Vyse farms were presented Thursday night to planning board by developer Joe Adamick. Mr. Adamick has already discussed his plans with officials here several times.

His draft plan will go now to the Project Planning Associates and the engineer, R. V. Anderson, for their study and recommendations.

Zoning change A zoning change will be required. Mr. Adamick plans a range of houses from top-rated residential requirements to town house. He intends to start off Wallace Ave. south of the music centre.

G. W. McKendle inquired about the projected number of school pupils. Mr. Adamick felt there

wouldn't be more than 30 more children next year. He hopes to start in the spring.

Christmas card

Today's issue of the Free Press is a maxi-Christmas card to all the readers.

There are dozens of greetings from merchants and business people wishing the happiness of the holiday season to everyone.

The greetings of the Free Press come with a full-color picture, printed right in the plant on the offset press. Four applications of ink in quick succession produced the illustration.

The paper comes out a day early, on Tuesday, and will be out on Tuesday again next week.



THE LONG TRIP from the North Pole and the excitement of Saturday's Beardmore Christmas party left Santa a little weary. One year old Susan Stumpf of Rockwood and

Santa's helper pretty Anita Thibodeau fared better. Jolly old St. Nick had gifts for about 260 children at the annual affair. —(Staff Photo)

'Twas the night before Christmas
and all through the town
people were happy
not a frown wore a frown.

And out on the street
not a driver'd been drinking,
it seems that they'd all
been doing some thinking.

To drink and to drive
on this day or any
would endanger their lives,
indeed that of many.

So they walked, went by cab,
or just stayed at home
and Christmas morning arrived
with no children alone.

BEST WISHES FOR
A SAFE
and HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON
from "TREVOR"
ON BEHALF OF THE
ONTARIO
PROVINCIAL
POLICE

