

We're off to Dublin in the green . . .



Each year as St. Patrick's Day nears, Mrs. Catharine Graham, R. R. 1, Limehouse, writes something about the land of her forefathers. This year she has chosen Dublin as her topic for the Free Press.

Travellers to Ireland often comment on the beauty of Ireland's capital, which has a history stretching back 1700 years. And this is how Mrs. Graham sees:

DUBLIN
The name Dublin is derived from the ancient Gaelic name Duibhlinn. Recent excavations in an old part have revealed the capital city of Ireland was a centre of population since the second century A.D. This has been confirmed by early Irish and Scandinavian records.

On the whole the ancient Irish were not town dwellers. They were a pastoral people and like most primitives tended to move with the seasons in search of food for their flocks and herds.

Dublin has a very sheltered harbour, this is due to the fact mountains encircle the coast. As a result, it has been a great enticement for invaders, and Dublin has had its share of them.

The Celts were really the first settlers, coming there about 2,500 years ago. Little is known of them as they did not write and keep records, but the Irish, Welsh, Scottish and Bretons (France) are Celts, and can still speak the Gaelic language.

The Norsemen were the next and remained there for 300 years, from the 9th to the 12th century. The Normans invaded

around 1170. Both these groups were great builders, and it was during this period that many of Dublin's ancient buildings were erected. St. Patrick's Church, Christ Church, Dublin Castle, the Birmingham Tower and Record Tower (prisons) and St. Audeon's Gate; these are all that remain of the medieval period.

Dublin remained in the hands of the English from the 12th to the 16th century. They had authority over an area comprising 1,800 square miles. This was known as the "Pale". Beyond that the Irish Chieftains and Anglo-Norman Earls ruled, until they were defeated in battle, then Dublin became the seat of English rule in Ireland. It was the melting pot of Norsemen, Welsh, Anglo Saxon, and native Irish. The population grew steadily from 24,000 in 1641 to its present population of over half-million.

Trinity College opened its doors in 1593. It was built on the site of an ancient monastery (these monasteries dated back to the time of St. Patrick and were also seats of learning). Some famous men graduated from Trinity — Edmund Burke, Swift, Plunket, Moore and Goldsmith . . . James Cross of recent

fame is also a graduate. Trinity is famous for its library, it contains 200,000 books, 1600 ancient manuscripts — notably "The Book of Kells".

Phoenix Park was laid out in 1660, it was then much larger than the present 1750 acres.

O'Connell street was built in 1740 by demolishing many narrow streets. The Protestant Reformation brought an influx of settlers from Europe, Huguenots from France and Dutch from Holland. These skilled craftsmen and the former gave impetus to the Irish linen trade, the latter introduced weaving and new styles in architecture.

Institutions common to the great European populates were formed. The first newspaper appeared in 1708, it was called "Poe's Occurrences".

Handel's "Messiah" was performed in 1742 in the new music hall built the year before. The Abbey Theatre was started by Lady Gregory (herself a writer) to encourage Irish writers and Dublin produced some of Ireland's greatest writers — George B. Shaw, Shaun O'Casey, James



The lakes of Killarney

Joyce, Lennox Robinson, Shaun O'Saolair, and Brendan Behan.

Arthur Guinness launched his world famous brewery in 1759. It first produced ale, then changed to porter. The Dublin Horse show was first held in 1841 in the courtyard of Leinster House. Since 1922 this

mansion has been used by Diol Eireann as a Parliament. The horse show is now held at Ballsbridge.

Today Dublin is expanding upwards and outwards. The new buildings are not near as beautiful as the old, but such is progress in the 20th century.

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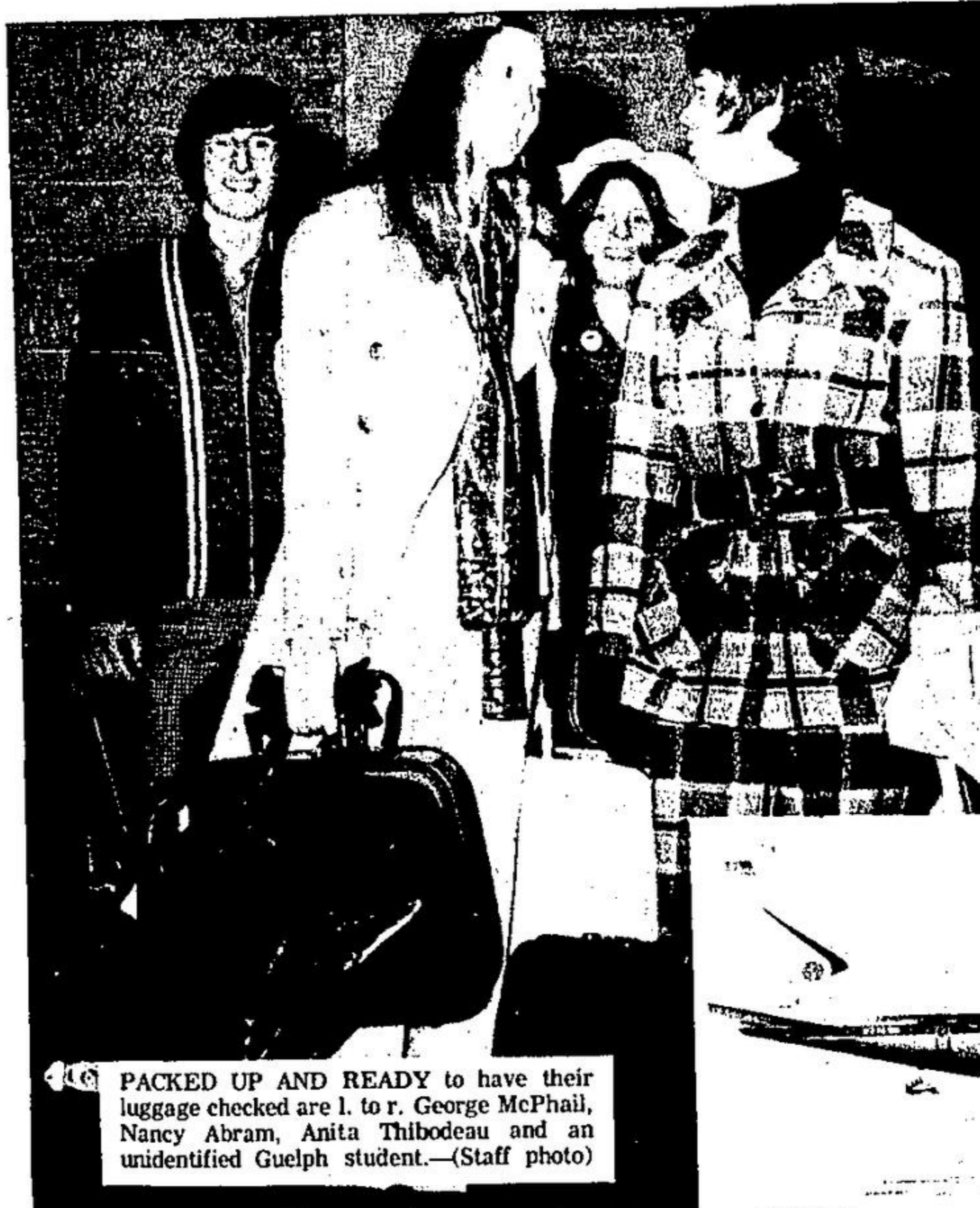
ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1971

Second Section

They're off for the Mediterranean



RECEIVING their plane tickets from the World Airways stewardess are Anita Braida and Lynn Bender.—(Staff photo)



PACKED UP AND READY to have their luggage checked are l. to r. George McPhail, Nancy Abram, Anita Thibodeau and an unidentified Guelph student.—(Staff photo)



THE PATTERSON family walk down the corridor to board the plane. Left to right are: Jeff Patterson and his parents Marion and Hugh.—(Staff photo)

Perfect weather conditions greeted 185 students and adults from Acton, Georgetown and Milton, as they took off into the wild blue yonder on a World Airways 707 bound for Rome last Thursday afternoon.

Flight to Rome was the first leg on a three week educational journey that will take them to the Mediterranean, France, Italy, Greece and Turkey. The group boarded the ocean liner "Ausonia", after arriving in Italy last Friday.

Excitement at Toronto International Airport immediately before the takeoff was high, as students lined up to get their tickets and have their baggage checked at the General Aviation

desk. Parents helped go over last minute check lists and bade their farewells, before the youths marched down the corridor to Gate 13 to board the aircraft. "It's just like old home week," remarked one Acton parent who met contemporaries from other two North Halton towns, who were also there to see their sons and daughters off. Flashbulbs sparked frequently and a few eyes glistened with a tear or two, tears perhaps of joy at seeing their children accomplish something they weren't able to do in their high school days.

After their stay in Europe, students will be returning March 29.

WORLD AIRWAYS 707 that flew the students to Rome prepares for takeoff from Toronto International Airport.—(Staff photo)



IN APPRECIATION

For Your Overwhelming Response to our "Grand Opening" Last Week, we have Added Many New Lines and are Offering Shoppers a Number of "Extra Specials" for The Second Week

IN OUR SHOE DEPARTMENT

MEN'S 8" FOAM INSULATED

High Cut Boot

Water resistant, silicone treated, natural tanned leather upper and full leather lined

REG. \$33.95 Special \$24.95

MEN'S

Cowboy Boots

Natural tanned leather upper, Goodyear welted construction. Ass'd colors & sizes

REG. TO \$33.00 Special \$18.00

Men's Brand Name DRESS SHOES REG. TO \$10.00 SPECIAL

DEPARTMENT STORE SPECIALS

WILKINSON-SWORD - REG. 75c

STAINLESS STEEL BLADES 29c

FLUSH-A-BYES REG. \$2.39 Special \$1.89

BOYS' - SIZES 8 TO 12

CORDUROY SLACKS REG. 3.95 \$2.49

BOYS' - SIZES 14 TO 18

CORDUROY SLACKS REG. 4.95 \$3.49

PLUS A LARGE SELECTION OF

• WORK CLOTHES • CHILDREN'S SLACKS • BOYS' AND GIRLS' SLACKS • FLARE JEANS • HOUSEWARES

• OVENWARE • TOOLS • PAINT BRUSHES AND

Many Other Lines at Great Reductions

Shafi's Shoe & Department Store

5 Mill St. E. - Acton

Shafi's fifth opening best, friendliest yet

When Shafi opened his fifth shoe store in Acton last week, welcoming his first customers was like greeting old friends, he said.

Shafi, his wife and family have lived in Acton since 1964, and after working at Beardmore and Co. he has opened four stores - all out-of-town. Now his fifth store is in Acton, and he expects either he or his wife June will be in the store each day.

400 roses

The opening of Shafi's shoe and department store last Thursday drew hundreds including the family's neighbors and acquaintances and the 400 long-stemmed roses for the ladies were gone by four o'clock. Extra help assisted last week. The roomy new store was as busy Thursday evening as during the day. Shafi expects to keep the store open every Thursday night, as well as Friday.

He has found many people are paid Thursday, and are right ready to go shopping. (Only food stores, in the main, are open here Thursday.)

Cut ribbon

Mayor Les Duby cut the ribbon for the store's official opening Thursday morning. The store is located where Dollar Daddy was before, near the corner of Mill and Main.

While Shafi specializes in shoes, he also has work clothing, children's clothing and household needs. Discount prices apply throughout, he stresses.

By buying in quantity, Shafi is able to stock fuller lines in all his stores.



MAYOR LES DUBY cut the ribbon to officially open Acton's newest front street business, Shafi's Discount Shoe Store, last Thursday morning. Looking on l. to r. are store owner Mr. Shafi, Orangeville store

manager Gordon Price, Mrs. June Shafi and Georgetown store manager Ron Clement. The new discount shoe business is located in the building which previously housed Dollar Daddy discount store.—(Staff Photo)

For instance, he goes to England to buy shoes, but the minimum order might be 1,000 pair. It is because of this kind of

purchase that Shafi opened one store after the other, for the past three years. His first store at Brampton,

opened three years ago, only sells shoes. His second store at Georgetown also has a discount warehouse upstairs. The

Orangeville shop specializes in shoes. The Fergus store has clothing as well as shoes.

Best welcome

Although he was welcomed in each town, his welcome here was the best, he says.

There were five big bouquets, one from the Chamber of Commerce.

Many Acton people have shopped at his stores in Georgetown and Brampton.

Among the visitors on opening day were two managers of his other stores, Ron Clement of Georgetown and Gord Price of Orangeville.

Came in 1964

Mr. and Mrs. Shafi live at 55 Meadvale Rd. with their daughter Susan, 12 and son John, three.

Shafi (he is known by just the one name) was born in Pakistan. He was ten years in England, when he worked while studying leather and shoe technology and business administration at Northampton College of Technology.

He came to Canada in 1964, with his family following soon. He was in the sales department at Beardmore and Co. until he left to devote full time to business.

The shoe department here will stock full ranges of sizes, which have been impossible to find in Acton before. He will be able to stock both narrow and wide shoes, and will stress quality shoes. Records will be kept of customers' sizes.