

In Acton

# Everything's not coming up roses

There's a story, hoary with age, that Actonians gleefully tell among themselves about the town's unmistakable odor, recognizable on wet or humid days.

The scene is a passenger coach, where a lady with a baby sits by an open window as the train rumbles through green Ontario countryside.

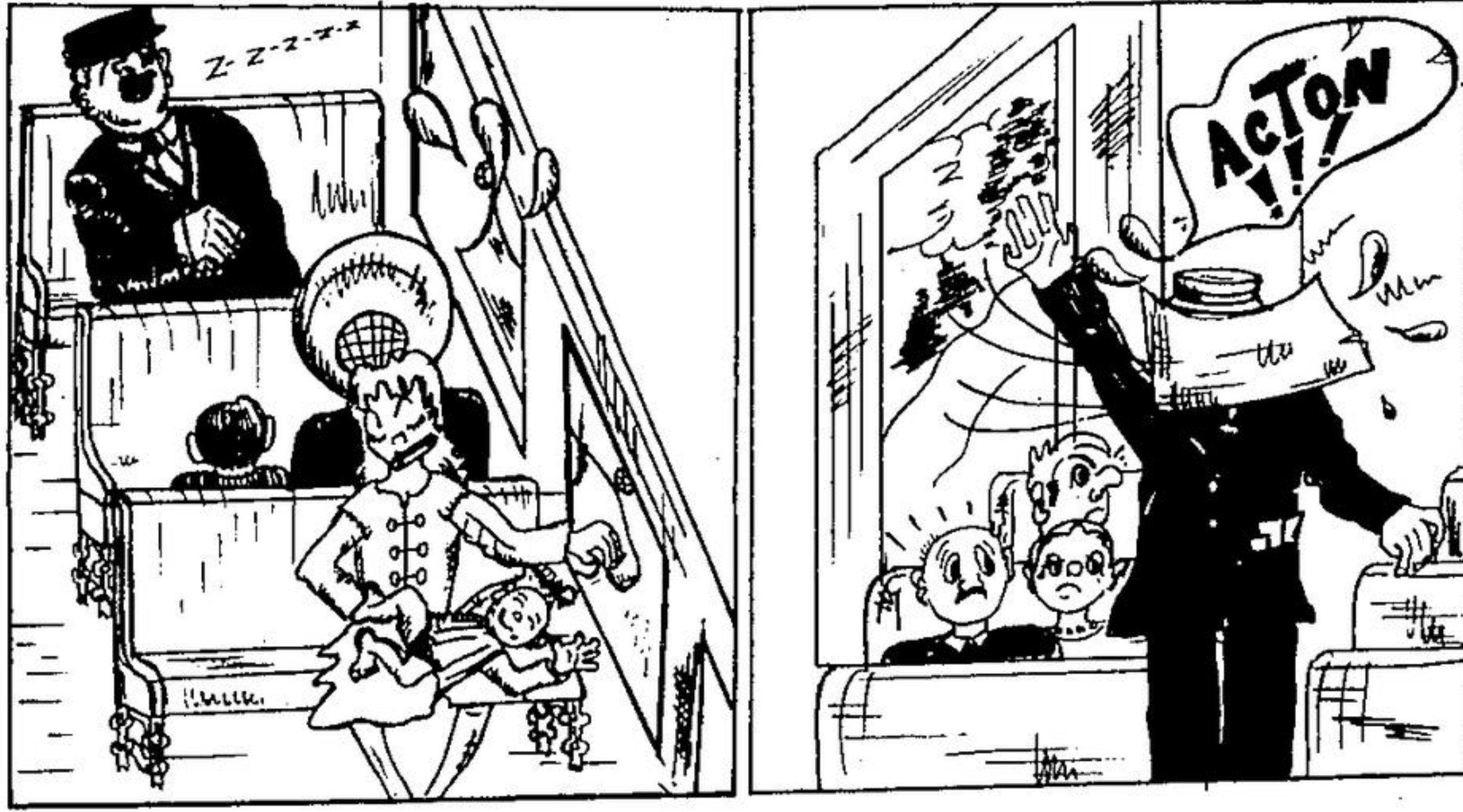
At the far end of the coach sits the conductor, weary with holiday passengers, and drowsing contentedly between rounds of ticket collecting. He has a contented smile on features hardened to all types of emergencies.

Suddenly the quiet of the coach is broken by the wall of the infant. Without hesitation, the young matron turns Johnny upside down. While idle passengers watch she hurriedly changes his diaper. Then without thinking she tosses the used one out the coach window.

At this time the vagaries of the weather played another quirk. A sudden gust of wind catches the diaper, carries it along outside the coach and blows it in another window. It lands flat on the conductor's face.

Without hesitation the wizened railway man stood on his feet and bellows: "First call for Acton."

And that is just about how newcomers unused to the aromas generated by the making of leather react when they get their first scent of tannery effluent.



Because one of the largest tanneries in the world is located at Acton it is predictable we get more than our share of it.

Periodically the distinctive aroma reaches out and envelops almost the entire town but ordinarily because of the favorable nature of the west winds it is restricted to the eastern end of town. Residents there, especially newer ones react with understandable horror.

Some gag, others, we are told, bring up. Still others develop symptoms of headache and severe nausea. But they are few and far between. For most it is just an undesirable smell they'd like to get rid of quickly.

However, it wasn't always this way. At one time there was a strongly held belief that the smell in Acton was good for the health. People pointed with pride to Beardmore employees who lived well beyond the normal life span, although often were employed in some of the least and smallest jobs imaginable.

In that era a man worked 10 hours a day, six days a week, and he wore the same clothes home as he worked in. Effluent from the busy tanneries was pumped into filter beds, which sophisticated engineers now refer to as lagoons.

These ponds of brown effluent

did a good job of filtering the gunk that accumulates in the leather-making process. On wet days, however, the odor that was hidden deep down in the bowels of the beds escaped and with indescribable speed spread an umbrella of foul air over the town.

A tourist passing through at this time would understandably react with great speed to put as many miles between himself and Acton as possible. His stories of the horrible smell he encountered going through Acton were pounced on with considerable glee by the rumor mongers, who managed to expand them so listeners could picture the cesspool-like air with appropriate holding-the-nose gestures.

On another occasion — probably nine-tenths of the year — a traveller would have a problem discerning any more than the usual aromas associated with a bustling small community.

It is the real "bad" days that people remember and although it can't be recorded on tape, photographed or written about with any accurate degree of description the town of Acton has made an indelible impression on many noses around the world. Noses come in many shapes, sizes and lengths but this has no bearing on their efficiency as receivers.

About two years ago Beardmore and Co. installed perfume dispensers at several places in town and nearby countryside to counteract the smell where it seemed to accumulate with a vengeance. People moved in amongst these odd-looking machines with a pleasant smile snuffing orange blossoms, while those without the pole gagged.

There are advantages to the smell which the outside world is not aware of to the same degree as the natives. Weary, fog-bound travellers need no neon signs to identify the precincts of the community and on certain days the odor has the delightful smell of new leather.

It is equally true that other communities have odor problems. Oakville has oil refineries. Georgetown has a sulphite mill associated with a paper mill. Hamilton has a soap factory that makes the Acton odor seem like Chanel No. 5 in comparison. Toronto's waterfront smells like all the sewage plants in the city spilled their effluent on certain days.

Perhaps the farmer is the one branch of society which has accepted smells as a necessary and promising part of life. As he spreads manure on fields he can look forward to crops which will bloom in abundance after the smell disappears.

Cheerful Actonians have the same outlook. After the smell is gone it will only be a memory.

## Bronte Area newest project

A provincial grant of \$81,747.50 to the Halton Region Conservation Authority for the purchase of land to be known as Bronte Conservation Area, has been announced by The Hon. George A. Kerr, Q.C., Minister of Energy and Resources Management.

The parcel to be acquired comprises a total of 117 acres and is bordered on the south by the Queen Elizabeth Highway and on the east by Bronte Road.

Halton Region Conservation Authority will distribute 30,000 automobile litterbags to vehicles

entering the Authority's conservation areas, as well as put 1,000 litter stickers on their garbage receptacles and adding 10 metal litter bins to their present supply.

The project is part of the "Littercheck" program originally designated and designed by the Packaging Association of Canada and adopted by the industry members of the Littering Control Council.

The main aim of the program endorsed by the Ontario government is to "keep Ontario clean".

### HINTON'S 5¢ to \$1 STORE SUMMER CLEARANCE SALE

#### GARDEN TOOLS

rakes, spades, hoes, lawn edgers, round mouth shovels, etc., TRUE TEMP AND GARRANT quality To Clear at 25 per cent off all prices.

CLEARING PRICES of Gas lawnmowers, fertilizer spreaders, basket chairs, aluminum lawn chairs and chaise lounges.

#### MOSQUITO COILS

a timely item. This is a new pleasant aromatic repellent — ideal for home, cottage, tents, trailers, patios and other enclosed spaces. No sprayer or duster needed, just light the coil and it smolders with no flame for about two hours. Enjoy your summer free from mosquitoes wherever you go. Regular 10 coil pkg. at 69¢. Sidewalk special only 47¢ pkg.

#### ZORI SANDALS

Men's and Ladies' (reg. 55¢ pair) Sidewalk special 39¢ pair.  
Children's ... Sidewalk special 29¢ pair

#### BATHING SUITS AND BATHING CAPS

for ladies, men and children. Save 25 per cent off our entire stock.

#### MODESS REGULAR

now exclusive modofilm (reg. 55¢) Sidewalk special only 39¢ pkg.

#### PEANUTS

blanched or Spanish (reg. 67¢) Special 49¢ lb. Bagged Candy, assorted flavors (reg. 39¢) Special 3 pkg's 99¢. Lowney's Bridge Mixture, a quality confection (reg. 89¢ lb.) 66¢ lb.

## Church Services

### ACTON CLERGY ASSOCIATION

(Announcement for all non-Roman Churches)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ECUMENICAL WORSHIP SERVICES (primarily, though not exclusively, for those away from Acton on weekends)

Wed., August 11, 8 p.m. — Acton Baptist Church  
Worship — Rev. Frank Byrne  
Sermon — Rev. Gordon Turner

Wed., August 18, 8 p.m. — Acton Baptist Church  
Worship — Rev. Frank Byrne  
Sermon — Rev. Harry Dawson

Any persons desiring transportation, please contact Mrs. Laura Ditrach 853-0805.

"Come with us, and we will deal generously with you" — Numbers 10: 29.

**BETH-EL CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
(Churchill Rd. and Hwy. 7)  
Minister:  
Rev. P. Brouwer, B.A., B.D.  
(Next to Church)

**CHURCHILL COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Churchill Road North  
Minister:  
The Rev. A. Walter Fosbury, B.A., B.D.  
124 Tudey Ave.  
Phone 853-2386

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15th, 1971  
Sunday Worship Services at 10:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.  
Pre-School Sunday School during the morning service  
Nursery during both services  
This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps. 118: 24)  
You Are Welcome!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15th, 1971  
During August  
10:00 a.m. — Union Services with Baptist Congregation at Baptist Church, Acton.  
Visitors are Welcome at All Church Gatherings at the Church on the Hill

**ACTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
80 Mill Street W.  
Founded 1842  
Pastor:  
Rev. Frank M. Byrne, B.A., B.Th.  
Parsonage:  
Cheltenham 416-838-2068  
Church Office 853-0860

**MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
81 Maple Ave., Georgetown  
Pastor:  
Rev. Robert C. Lohnes

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15th, 1971  
Here is our sincere invitation to the whole family to attend church.  
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School. All ages.  
11:00 a.m.—Morning Service.  
7:00 p.m.—Evening Evangel. Georgetown 877-6665

**EVANGEL PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE**  
P.A.O.C. 33 Churchill Rd.  
Rev. S. M. Thoman, Pastor 853-2715

**THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR ANGLICAN**  
Corner Wilow St. and St. Alban's Dr.  
Rev. H. J. Dawson, B.A., B.Th.

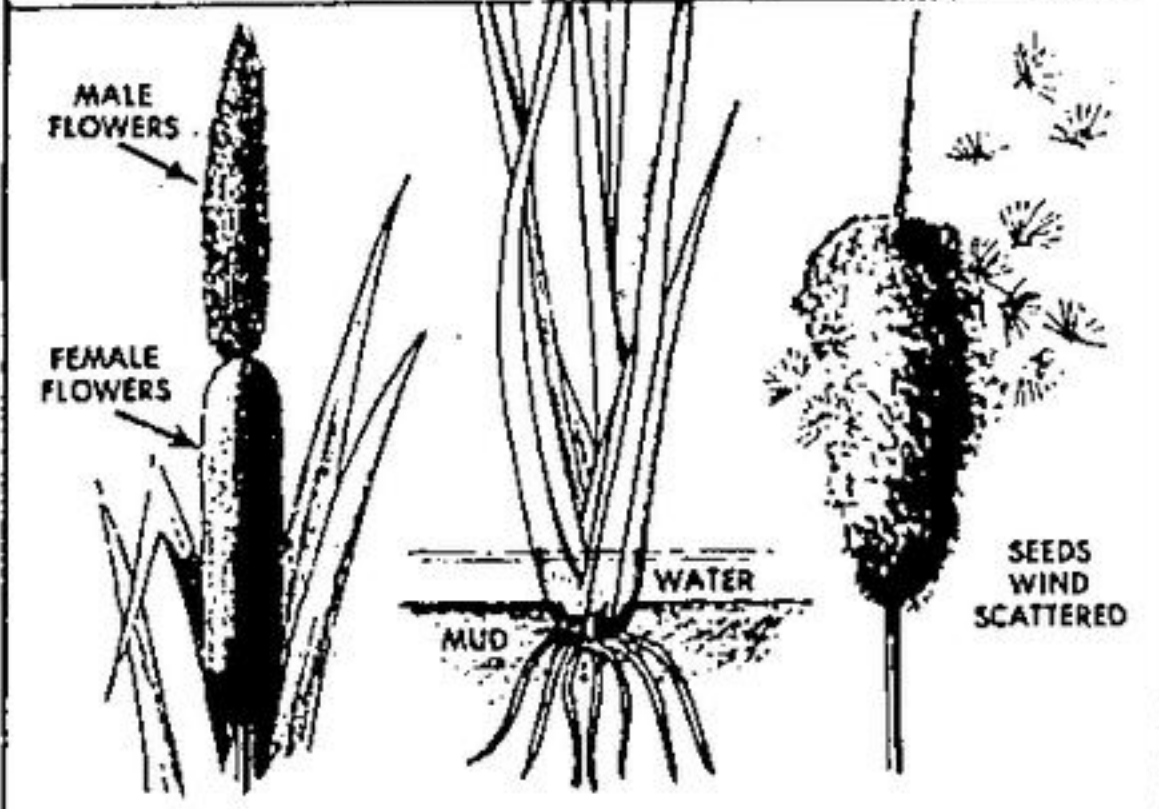
SUNDAY, AUGUST 15th, 1971  
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School.  
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.  
7:00 p.m.—Evangelist Service.  
Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. — Prayer Service and Bible Study.  
Psalm 62: 2 — He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be greatly moved.

**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

**UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA TRINITY CHURCH, ACTON**  
Minister:  
The Rev. Gordon B. Turner, B.A., B.D.  
Director of Music:  
Dr. George Elliott, M.A., Ph.D.

NINTH SEASON — COMBINED SUMMER SERVICES IN TRINITY UNITED CHURCH  
Preacher: Rev. Gordon Turner  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 15th, 1971  
10:00 a.m. — Divine Worship.

### MARSH WORLD by ANGUS SHORT Ducks Unlimited



#### CATTAIL — (Typha sp.)

Two species broad and narrow leaved. Common marsh reed, grows in shallow water, in dense beds, frequently covering an entire area and choking out other vegetation. Grows up to six feet in height. Root stock is valuable food for muskrat, which also uses the plant stems and leaves as building material for their homes. Occasionally useful as goose forage. Good nesting cover and nest building material for diving ducks.

### ACTON PHARMACY

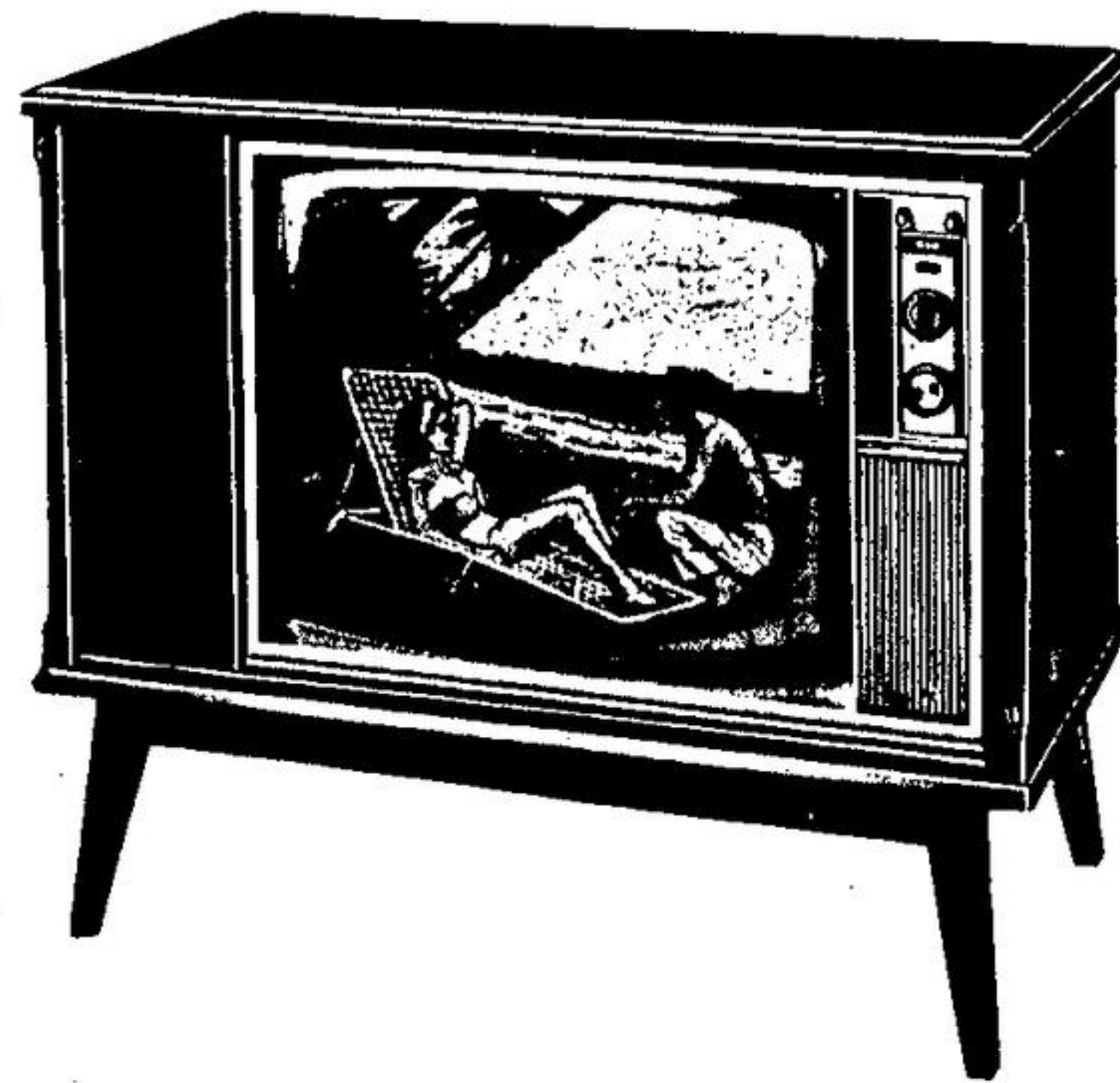
for all your SUMMER NEEDS

Cepacol 22 oz.	
<b>MOUTHWASH</b>	\$1 29
Reef 17-oz.	
<b>MOUTHWASH</b>	99¢
12's	
<b>Dimetapp Extentars</b>	\$1 58
Wizard 22 oz.	
<b>CHARCOAL LIGHTER FLUID</b>	39¢
Neet	
<b>Aerosol Dipilatory</b>	\$1 69
Raid 18.7 Fluid oz. (Reg. 1.89)	
<b>BUG &amp; GARDEN SPRAY</b>	\$1 49
<b>Dristan Tablets</b> 24's	99¢
<b>SINUTABS</b> 12's	99¢
CTP 4 oz. 18's	
<b>CHLORTRIPOLON</b>	\$1 09

**C.W. Kelly and Son Ltd.**

**OFFERS YOU**

**AN EXCEPTIONAL SAVING on a 26" GIANT SCREEN RCA COLOR TV**



Distinctively designed 26" compact console in traditional walnut veneer. Excitingly life-like Accucolor, with powerful computer designed Mark II A 25,000 chassis Accutint; A.F.T. automatic fine tuning and new vista plug-in tuner. All channel Instant Pic. Black Matrix Screen Come in and see us for a colour demonstration.

(NOT AS ILLUSTRATED)

**VISIT OUR DOWNSTAIRS TV SHOWROOMS**

**C. W. KELLY & SON LTD.**

Corner Wyndham & Macdonnell Sts.

Guelph — 822-6041