PROSPECT PARK juts into Fairy Lake almost like a fairy ship in this aerial photo by Jack Carpenter. Lakeview subdivision is on the left of the northern arm of the lake, while the business section of town can be traced straight up from the southern arm. The industrial park can be seen top left, along

with Warren Grove and the H.K. Porter plant, while Glenlea subdivision is easily seen top right. Land in the foreground is part of the Breezes while that to the left is dredging material, now a desolate waste.



My tired old eyes almost popped out and ran down my cheeks the other day, like a couple of peeled grapes, when I read about the increases in pay to our armed forces.

"My God," I groaned to my wife, "will you listen to this? A buck private is going to get \$480 a month." She wasn't impressed.

But she perked up her ears and turned down the corners of her mouth with my next remark: "And a colonel will be drawing \$1,960 a month." My brother, her brother-inlaw, is a colonel.

Out came the pencil and she started some rapid calculation. In about half an hour, while I sat there shaking my head with a mixture of shocked disbelief and incipient nausea, she blurted, "Do you realize that young pup is going to be making \$22,520 a

I nodded morosely. I had done it in my head, give or take a few hundred dollars, in eight seconds.

"Why - why, that's impossible," and her voice went up an octave. I just took the paper over and pointed to the cold, black

It was like swallowing a horse-pill without benefit of water, for both of us. While I had been slogging along serving humanity as a weekly newspaper editor, sometimes hitting a high of \$6,200 a year, and later as a teacher, he had been gallivanting around to all sorts of glamorous and exciting places.

Aide-de-camp to an Air Vice-Marshal in Europe. Boar-hunting in Germany. Commander of a fighter squadron in France. Liaison officer in Paris. Desk job in Ottawa. Back to Europe. Back to Canada to head a fighter squadron at Val d'Or, guarding us against the Eskimos, then a soft touch at Colorado Springs in the States, watching the panic button, and skiing week-

There was only one bright spot in my mind as I reviewed this circuit. He's now stuck in Syracuse. Who wants to live in Syracuse?

But my wife wasn't finished. "Why didn't you stay in the air force?" I gave her some lofty reply about being my own man, and not wanting to wallow around in peace-time on the taxpayer's money. I didn't mention that the air force wouldn't have had me if World War III had broken out twenty minutes after World War II ended.

Then, in the gloomy silence that followed. I started thinking back. When I joined up, we got \$1.30 a day, or \$40 a month. I sent home \$20 a month to my mother. We got paid every two weeks, so I had a handsome \$10 to blow. I'll never forget the time I lost my \$10 bill about twenty minutes after pay parade. It was at Manning Pool in Toronto, with about 10,000 airmen on hand. The next couple of weeks were slim pickings. But I made it, by borrowing. That's when I started borrowing, and I've never caught up

But it wasn't so bad, really. Beer was 10c a draft and a dollar went a long way. I didn't

smoke. Girls didn't expect you to take them out for drinks, dinner and the theatre. They just expected you to take them out.

Hotel rooms were no problem, on weekend leave. One of us would check into the old King Eddie in Toronto, and take a single room. Price was \$3.00, with 10 per cent off for servicemen. Then about five more would sneak up and six of us would share a single room, sleeping three on the bed, crossways, the others on the floor. Average cost, 45c each. We didn't need much sleep anyway.

Wages went up with each increase in rank. As I recall it, when I was commissioned, I got about \$6.50 a day. This was wealth beyond the dreams of avarice, in those days. The Australian and U. K. officers envied us bitterly. They were paid about half that, to maintain the standards of an officer and gentleman.

I don't envy the servicemen their increase. They have a job that is especially thankless in peacetime. But if I were quite a few years younger, I'd be running, not walking, to the nearest recruiting station.

But my kid brother is another matter. I'm smarter than he is, though he'd never admit it. I could always beat him up. He's got his only child married off to a wealthy Englishman. He's going to have a fat pension in just a few years.

It's only fair to serve notice on him that he may have long-term, perhaps permanent, guests, when he retires and picks out his villa in Spain.

Consumers should complain . . .

Consumers have a right to complain when they are not satisfied with the quality of food they have purchased. And it is important they complain to the right person.

This is what food specialists at the Ontario Food Council of the Ontario Department of Food and Agriculture, say with some authority.

No matter how inexpensive a purchase may be, poor quality should not be shrugged off.

First, go to the store manager. He should be made aware of the shortcomings. If the problem is not solved there write to the president of the company and outline the complaint. If it is still not resolved, the Ontario Food Council can try to solve the problem or find an explanation.

However, it is important you make your complaint to the store manager first, since we have found that most, with a few exceptions will do all in their power to see the quality of the food purchased is of high quality.

If more people would complain food quality would improve.

Free Press / Editorial Page

Let the cities restrict growth . . .

We sympathize with Fergus and many other small towns affected by the provincial report on water management which recommends that all municipalities north of Guelph on the Speed River, and above Waterloo on the Grand River, should restrict growth to the "greatest possible degree."

"Why not let the boys downriver restrict their growth?" asks the Fergus News-Record in a sarcastic note.

Or better, the paper suggests, get cracking on some better way of disposing of sewage effluent than running it down to the lake, which it ruins, and then buying more phosphates, etc. to put on the land.

The Fergus complaint is a familiar one, of course. When it comes to growth restrictions it is the small towns which

are the first to receive notice while overgrown cities continue to sprawl over their borders and pollute the watersheds.

Why not send some of the massive metro complex to smaller places which could use the economic expansion?

There are incentive programs to attract industry and some accompanying growth to the "depressed areas," but the already crowded cities continue to receive the lions share of expansion and the smaller places are getting the "crumbs."

For a government supposed to be encouraging growth away from the huge metro complex, it does seem like short sighted policy, as the News-Record says.

Smaller places are getting sick of being pawns in a game to expand the cities.

We'd like to keep our children at

home, too, with better jobs and opportunities. We'd like to see them enjoy living in towns where they can have the amenities of the 20th Century and still be close to rural living. The smaller towns and villages don't want to be large metropolitan centres but they want to have some share in the affluent life that attracts hordes to the

Decentralization is often expounded but seldom practiced. The result is cities are getting larger, problems are growing bigger and the smaller places are standing still, with some notable exceptions.

To paraphrase the Fergus paper, "Why not let the boys in the cities restrict their growth? Send some of it to places that could use it - and handle it - by introducing better incentives for industry to locate in smaller centres.

Let's see all the games . . .

We don't like to take pot shots at the prestigious Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, because it is so vulnerable to criticism.

But the nonsense which annoys us is the practice of blacking out Canadian football on TV and showing American football in its stead. It is annoying and specially aggravating when it comes to playoffs.

We hear so much about increasing the Canadian content of TV and radio that we just take it for granted the CBC would be in the forefront of the battle to preserve our Canadian identity. Threedown football is a Canadian game, although there certainly are plenty of Americans involved in it.

We are aware that many Canadians like the American brand of football best with its four downs and innumerable time-outs, but it doesn't cut much ice with us.

If Hamilton and Toronto are involved in a crucial playoff game, we think the fans across the country should be able to see them play - or Calgary and Regina - or any other teams involved.

We understand much of the reluctance to show Canadian football live stems from the clubs themselves. They black out certain areas to ensure the gate receipts meet the players' salary demands. We would expect the CBC or CTV would make an effort to get the owners to change their minds.

Club owners know, of course, that an inferior product cannot stand much exposure on the TV screen. Continual exposure would mean the calibre of play would improve since fans have the American networks to compare quality.

Of course, the CFL is excited by the offer from a group of American businessmen from New York who want to obtain a franchise from the Canadian league.

The Financial Post comments that to all of us average Canadians the American interest in our game, our entertainment, is surely all that is needed to convince us the CFL is really okay - just like Anne Murray, Joni Mitchell, Donald Sutherland and all those other Canadian entertainers who found the American seal of approval made them acceptable at home.

But to Gaudaur and others who still remember when hockey was a Canadian game, the sudden wooing of Canadian pro football by U.S. big money is a nightmare revisited. They could like it so well it would no longer be distinctively Canadian.

issues

20 years ago

Taken from the Issue of the Free Press, Thursday, November 29, 1951.

More than 70 per cent of the homes were represented by more than 400 parents and interested citizens when the teachers of Acton public school staged the annual Parents Night. Parents night has been in operation for 10 years now and Mr. McKenzie explains every subject and every pupil is represented in the 10 rooms.

A "comparatively" quiet nomination meeting in Nassagaweya township on Monday leaves only an election for four councillors with J. S. Norrish reeve by acclamation and school trustees Stan Robinson, Delmer Moffat and E. Coxe by acclamation.

After a nine-day trip across the Atlantic ocean, Mrs. B. Hamill of Greenock. Scotland, arrived in Acton Sunday to visit her daughter Mrs. M. McMillan, Wallace St. She saw for the first time her two grandchildren David and Anne.

Advertisement-Make this a Television Christmas! Admiral 17 inch, table model \$449.95. Admiral 17 inch cabinet with radio and phonograph \$729.95. 17 inch cabinet model \$479. Hassard Radio and Television, corner Mill and Main Sts. With nine entries in turkey classes at the

Winter Fair Lorraine Farms, owned by J. W. Wolfe, took two firsts and won five other ribbons.

Acton skaters braved the ice on the pond Sunday for the first time.

At Guelph Collegiate commencement exercises Leno Braida won a scholarship for general proficiency and a Dominion-Provincial university scholarship as well as his honor graduation diploma.

Taken from the issue of the Free Press. Thursday, December 1, 1921.

a large brass pot or kettle, the bottom of

which was rusted through. Digging in the vicinity revealed 25 skulls arranged in a circle, a tomahawk, a lot of wampum, shells and beads. It is believed this was the site of an Indian burial a couple of hundred years ago. The discovery immediately attracted reporters from the city papers.

The next entertainment in the list of the Chatauqua Lyceum Bureau will be the Dixie Duo, two dainty southern girls.

Another of our esteemed residents passed away when William Allan Leishman died Friday. When he was a lad of seven his parents came to this vicinity from Streetsville. He learned the trade of stone mason and worked with the late John Lamb. Mr. Ward Ruddell picked a box of straw-

berries on his farm. The Methodist church at Everton has been purchased by the Disciple congregation. Services were discontinued a

THE ACTON FREE PRESS

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75 years ago

couple of years ago.

Taken from the issue of the Free Press.

Just 20 years ago this week that the first

The blacksmiths are having their innings

this week. On Monday and Tuesday the

horses which were not sharp-shod suffered.

automobile was brought into Canada.

Thursday, December 3, 1896.

A number of small boys, sons of very respectable parents, are engaged in selling the sensational-often approaching the obscene-papers published in Chicago, Utica, etc. These filthy sheets pander to a morbid taste for the sensual, unreal and exaggerated illustrations of wickedness alleged to be enacted in places high and low. The boys themselves are contaminated as well as those who purchase the papers.

It is reported that the Duke and Duchess of York will visit Canada sometime next year and rumor has it that wherever they go the presiding officer of the town or city will be knighted. If this is a fact it will stimulate an interest in the coming municipal contests. Wouldn't it be a good idea to extend an invitation to this enterprising manufacturing town? Sir George Havill, Sir Albert Edward Nicklin, Sir Isaac Francis or Sir William Brown . . . all would sound well.

Which of them will be Reeve next year? Sunday last will long be remembered as one of the most successful anniversaries of the Methodist church. The church was never crowded fuller for the evening service when between 800 and 900 were in attendance and many were obliged to stand. The 52nd anniversary offerings were highly satisfactory; collections were \$110 and receipts from the lecture \$18.

The Thanksgiving entertainment under the auspices of the Fire Brigade was a gratifying success with the town hall crowded to the doors. There were 18 numbers on the program, including an orchestra, the United Church Choirs. recitations, songs and readings. Mr. Harry Jeans' new comic songs received rapturous applause. The stage was very pretty with

follage: Receipts were \$50.

From the editor's desk . . .

No one was really surprised when Wilfred (Bucko) McDonald and the late Rex Stimers were named to the eastern division of the Canadian lacrosse hall of fame last

Bucko, a native of Fergus, played his lacrosse with senior teams in Fergus, Orillia, Brampton and coached in Huntsville. He became so good at lacrosse that the Toronto Maple Leafs of the '30's took him up to the National Hockey League, where despite a lack of skating talent, he became a Leaf stalwart on defense. And, of course, hockey fans here remember Bucko when he coached the Sundridge Beavers to several O.H.A. intermediate hockey championships, eliminating Acton Tanners and Georgetown Raiders, among others, enroute to titles

We remember that 1948 series when the Beavers with Bucko playing defense took a highly rated Tanners in straight games. Bucko was in to watch the Tanners play Port Dover, hoping to pick up a few bets by praising the Tanners, observing his Sunridge Beavers wouldn't have much of a chance when they met the Acton club in the finals.

There were plenty of takers. Acton fans watching the Tanners take all the other teams on the championship route, were confident the Beavers would be just another patry. Bucko encouraged this outlook with

3

several sheaves of bank notes. Needless to say the Beavers proved to be

just as tough as the now aging Bucko. The Tanners gave it their best shot but the tiny town of Sundridge picketed the O.H.A. silverware and the money bet on the

So how can we forget him?

REX STIMERS?-The voice of the Niagara Peninsula. Who could forget his inimitable radio voice that raised hockey and lacrosse in St. Catharines to a way of

When the Waterhouse brothers operated the pool room where Dollar Daddy is located now, the voice of Rex Stimers was heard regularly following the exploits of the Junior A St. Catharines Tee Pees. He brought the game alive much the way he did with lacrosse. CKTB Radio was a must for sports

Stimers, a native of Toronto, moved to St. Kitts in 1933. Now he's in the hall of fame in the east as well as in the west in New Westminster, where they still speak with awe of the voice from St. Kitts.

Mrs. R. M. Chmay, 230 Jarvis St., Fort Erie, writes to say she is collecting cancelled postage stamps. "These seemingly worthless articles, from any

country are sold in bulk by the Scarborough Fathers to companies that supply stamp collectors. The money thus obtained aids the world's poor, regardless of religion," says Mrs. Chmay.

Another plea comes from CARE OF CANADA for funds to feed 28,350,000 people in 35 countries or areas during the coming year. The relief crisis created by the influx of Pakistani refugees has been compounded by floods or drought in six states of India and this places an increased burden on CARE this holiday season. Contributions may be sent to: The World of Nutrition Program, 63 Sparks St. Suite 402, Ottawa, Ont. Deliveries to stricken people are made in the name of the CARE donor.

Final plea this week comes from the OXFAM-CANADA SARI appeal for Pakistani women in the refugee camps of India, of which there are three million, 170,000 of them in OXFAM camps. Their numbers are increasing daily and members or the Uxiam field team stress the need for saris to cover the women, especially as winter approaches.

Oxfam is asking for one dollar per sari --"small sum which will pay large dividends in warmth, cleanliness and protection - and perhaps more important, human dignity," Send your donation to Oxfam Sari Appeal, 280 Bloor St., West, Toronto 1780, Ont.

50 vears ago

One day last week Sidney Mountain was plowing on his farm on the third line, Esquesing, known as the Nathan Turner farm. His plowshare caught in the handle of