



ERIN UNITED CHURCH CHOIR and orchestra presented the Johnny Cash Trip to the Holy Land for an appreciative congregation at Knox Presbyterian Church Sunday evening. The program was sponsored by the Daughters of Knox and attracted old and young alike.—(Staff Photo)

## Erin choir's presentation appreciated by full church

Knox Presbyterian Church was almost filled for a special musical Sunday evening when the Erin United Church choir and orchestra presented the Johnny Cash trip to the holy land in narration and song.

The Daughters of Knox sponsored the program which chronicled the popular singer's experiences when he toured the holy land, after coming through personal crises which involved

drugs and high living, leading eventually to deep faith.

Mrs. C. Justice led the 35 voice mixed choir in musical numbers which were preceded by narration from John Trimble. Organist was Mrs. G. Altken and the pianist Mrs. D. Armstrong. Voices blended well for the sacred-secular music and the congregation responded to numbers with enthusiasm.

Rev. Andrew McKenzie of

Knox Acton, gave the call to worship which led into the Erin choir's presentation, visiting by song well known parts of Israel including the town of Cana, Mount Tabor, the walling wall, Bethlehem, and the Garden of Gethsemane. Marie Sherwood and Mrs. T. Snowden sang a duet Beautiful Words. Special effects were provided by the orchestra and organist.

The Erin group has presented

the program on three other occasions to packed churches at Erin and Belwood. It has an appeal to all ages as was reflected in attendance at Knox Church, Sunday, where many young, middle aged and elderly people attended.

Reaction to the program pleased the sponsoring Daughters of Knox. People approached them afterwards with comments such as, "It wasn't half long enough," or asking if they intended to repeat the program.

The Daughters of Knox hoped more young people would be attracted to hear the music, which has a special appeal to them and may sponsor another if the demand warrants.

## The Clergy Speak Out

This Matter of Drug Addiction

By Rev. A. Walter Fowbury



Speaking privately, on a person-to-person basis, Gerald LeDain, chairman of the Federally-appointed commission named to deal with the drug problem in Canada, said, after the completion of their report, that he had been compelled, because of the commission's findings, to change completely many of his pre-conceived ideas on the matter.

While he did not go into detail in this private conversation, it is probably true to say that one of the reasons for the change of viewpoint was on the question of social drinking.

Much has been said with regard to the problem of teen-age usage of marijuana or hashish. Short-range studies have been made in this area, with conflicting viewpoints resulting therefrom. It might be well for us to consider the situation in those parts of our world where marijuana or hashish has been used for some generations past. Surely it is sufficient to point out that, in Iraq, where the effects of this drug on the addict is well known, the "pushers" or "traffickers" in it, on being found guilty, receive the mandatory death penalty.

No appeal is allowed. The writer is of the opinion that the emphasis on teen-age addiction has been over-stressed. Certainly the problem is there, but what about the addiction of middle-aged folk to drugs of one kind or another?

This is a period in which the use of drugs, in one form or another, is used in every home and, in many cases, simply as a crutch or way of escape from the taxing realities or imaginations of life. How often do people feel that they "have to get away from it all" and the way of escape, for many, is by way of alcoholic beverages or some other form of drugs. The teen-ager of this generation is simply following the pattern set for him by his elders.

A year or two ago a survey was carried out by the Drug Addiction Foundation people in the southern part of Halton County in an area where teen-age drug addiction was stressed as being so widespread. Significantly, the findings of these people was that, where the parents openly countenanced and used alcoholic beverages in their social life, the teen-agers in those homes were

most likely to take to using drugs of an addictive nature.

Three doctors, practicing medicine in Eaglesville, Penna., reported a few weeks ago that of 61 patients who were drug addicts, all but four were previously given to drinking alcoholic beverages, two-thirds drank too much, and most had their first drink around the age of thirteen. It was three years later that the average addict started using illegal drugs. The study was carried out at the Eaglesville Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre.

Suffice to say, that members of the medical profession are more subject to addiction to alcohol than are those of any other section of society. The rigors of their profession are a contributing factor in this regard. Drink serves as a way of escape, which is just translation from one state of difficulty to another.

After nearly 2000 years of Christianity, many among us have not yet realized that the only sure way of escape from social slavery of any kind is through the acceptance of that truth "which sets men free"—the Way of Life as revealed to us in Jesus Christ.

The LeDain Report makes it quite clear that the major drug problem of our time and nation is not, at the instance, marijuana or hashish, but alcohol. We are told, on good authority, that one out of 15 social drinkers becomes an alcoholic and that there are as of now, 125,000 such folk in the Province of Ontario. Experts on alcoholism go so far as to say that "five people are adversely affected, economically, physically and/or emotionally, by every alcoholic." Alcoholism is now the largest killer of human life, apart from heart ailments and cancer.

More than once has the writer been told by a member of his congregation that "he could take a drink or leave it alone" and more than once has he seen his people fail to stay that way. One of his best friends—committed suicide because of the tremendous problem which alcoholism imposed on him.

This is too high a price to pay, and all so unnecessary, and we dare not try to dismiss it all by saying that the views expressed above are "to mid-Victorian". This is a Twentieth Century problem.

## Coles' Slaw . . .

(Continued from Page Four)

10th Century's new prophet—the computer. The true scientist is very much aware of the other parts of man's nature that cannot be examined under a microscope. He is aware that the order and laws of the universe did not happen by chance.

Science and faith are not opposed but can complement one another so we can better understand our natures and the universe in which we live.

I know a few people who could argue with me on that point and make some valid points of their own. There are others who would be diametrically opposed because science has landed us on the moon and done other wonders. To their minds the scientists are the new gods.

There are others who would argue the opposite—that the Bible was written to be understood literally and that any deviation from the word as it was written is heresy and sacrilege.

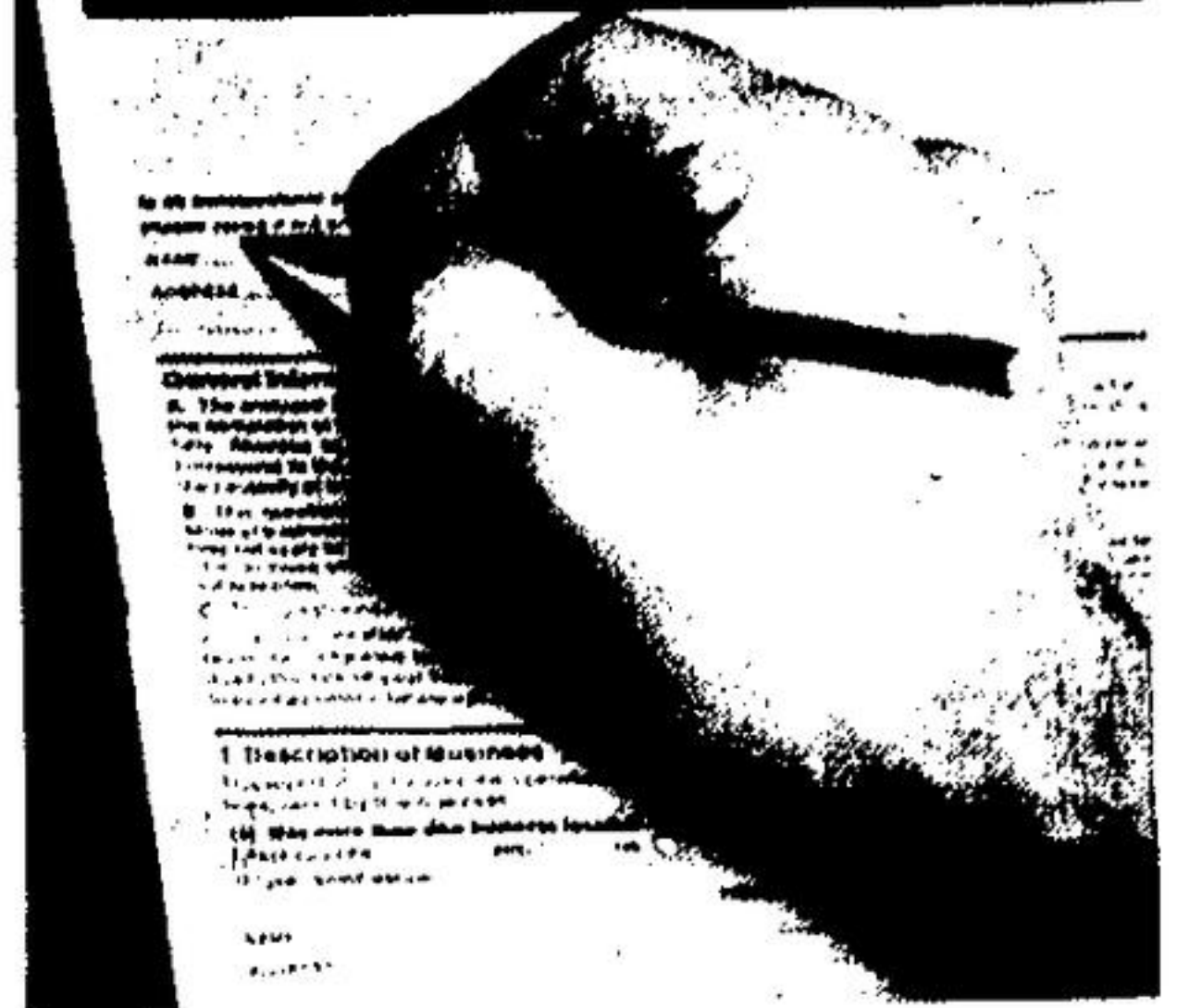
It seems to me they are missing the truths that can come from both sources. As Francis Thompson puts it so succinctly:

Does the fish soar to find the ocean,  
The eagle plunge to find the air—  
That we ask of the stars in motion  
If they have rumor of Thee there?

Not where the wheeling systems darken,  
And our benumbed conceiving soars! —  
The drift of pinions, would we hearken,  
Heats at our own clay-shuttered doors.

The angels keep their ancient places;—  
Turn but a stone, and start a wing?  
"Thy ye," 'tis your estranged faces,  
That miss the many-splendored thing.

## Census of Merchandising and Service Businesses, 1971



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The Merchandising and Service Division of Statistics Canada is taking this census to produce accurate, up-to-date information to help in your business planning. To do this, it needs your up-to-date results. The breadth and thoroughness of the census is what makes it so important to so many people in business and government alike.

Statistics Canada / Statistique Canada

## OUR READERS WRITE:

### Why widen Bower, cut down trees?

Dear Sir:

I read with interest the account of council approving renovations to Bower Avenue in last week's edition of the Acton Free Press. Truly, I admire council's admission that the road on Bower Avenue is desperately in need of repair. Patchwork in the past has proved fruitless and a proper resurfacing is the only solution.

However I question the need (as I assume engineers propose) that the entire road allowance must be widened, cutting down on the present boulevard allowance.

Another piece of sad information gathered is that several if not most of the trees (which have stood for years and provided shade as well as making Bower Avenue one of the few remaining treed areas) must be removed. If the proposed facelift is caused because of increased traffic on Bower Avenue (as a direct result of the federal building being erected in a ridiculous location) council should take a long, hard look at facts.

Acton is closing in on home mail delivery fast. If information I have heard is true, Acton is well within a few hundred homes of home mail delivery. With proposed housing slated to begin, the number of required homes will soon be whittled down.

Is it fact or fiction, that postal authorities are already gearing for the day and a member or members of the local post office is soon to be trained on the facet of dealing with home delivery service?

If, the renovations to Bower Avenue are geared for present traffic, might it be suggested that council take a second look and consider construction of a proper roadbed entailing the present road allowance, leaving many of the trees to provide shade and properly repairing sidewalks that are desperately in need.

No doubt underground wiring will also come into consideration while renovations are underway. This is a step in the right direction as new subdivisions are built, but to burden taxpayers with this type of system in an already established older part of the town (unless desperately required) seems a little premature at this time.

In conclusion, I believe if a proper roadbed is provided in the existing road allowance, boulevards are left at the present allowance, snowplowing in the winter should not leave piles of the white stuff combined with salt and sand on everyone's lawn. It would kill grass in the Spring.

I am sure that Bower Avenue residents would be quite happy with a compromise of this nature and be able to sit in front of their homes in good weather to chat with the smiling mailman as he delivers their mail.

P.S. I understand a number of Bower Avenue residents were called to a special council committee to learn of proposed changes, but unfortunately not every homeowner on the street. All will be affected in some manner.

Sincerely,  
Don Ryder.

### Social meeting for Knox W.M.S.

The Afternoon Auxiliary of Knox Women's Missionary Society met Thursday afternoon March 16, in the Dr. A. C. Stewart Memorial Hall in an unusual social meeting.

Miss Anderson, the president, convened the meeting, assisted by Mrs. Miller. She conducted a number of interesting and original contests and then served a sumptuous lunch.

Several guests were present.

### First robins

Who saw the first robin, eternal harbinger of Spring, which officially was ushered into this area early Monday morning — a day early because the calendar makers tacked on an extra February day?

The answer is — several people spotted a robin redbreast on the first day of Spring. The Free Press has also had a few reports of sightings on the second day of Spring as well, one of them from the office windows of the plant on Willow St. And all the feathered migrants from the south were reportedly fat and chubby.

So spring is officially here, the migratory birds are arriving. All we need is appropriate weather.

## A political bouquet . . .

OTTAWA,  
9th March, 1972.

Dear Hartley:

Again I must congratulate you and the staff of the Acton Free Press on winning the awards at the Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association meeting.

Year after year, you have continued to

maintain the highest excellence in newspapers in your category, and I know that this will continue in the future.

Much luck to you in the forthcoming year and again, congratulations.

Sincerely,  
Rud L. Whiting, M.P.,  
Halton.

## Organize Erin Liberal Ass'n

Area Liberals have decided to form an Erin and District Liberal Association.

At a meeting held March 14 in Erin a group representative of most locations in Erin Village, and Erin Township, voted approval to hold a founding meeting for the Association.

The date has been set for Monday April 24, at Brisbane Public School Gymnasium.

(Hwy. 24, just east of Erin Township 7th Line), starting at 8 p.m.


Halton Liberal M.P. Mr. Rud L. Whiting will attend the meeting, at which time the first Association Executive will be elected.

Mrs. Jacqueline O'Connor, one of the organizers of the meeting last week, and a member of the Nominating Committee, said

about a dozen persons are serving on the steering committee, which is organizing the meeting.

She said, anyone interested in joining the Association should attend the meeting April 24th.

WATCH for children this week while driving. It is "winter break".



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