

New stamps have some class

Somewhere in the bureaucracy of the post office it was decided Canada had had enough of those old dull pastel-colored postage stamps. They've been replaced with bright examples of postage art that appeals to people of all ages and stations.

It is no wonder Canadians had a hard job selling the Queen to other countries when she was presented as a dull matron in dirty brown, or a hospital grey or green.

Who ever picked out the colors for Her Majesty had an institutional mind which favored institutional colors for a subject which should have life and appeal. Then it happened.

Stamps started appearing in vivid colors portraying art, commemorating anniversaries and other milestones the country has observed.

What a difference!

Just recently the postage stamp people issued a large eight and 16 cent stamp of the Queen which portrayed her with some of the personal warmth she exhibits in public. Of course, there were complaints—the stamp was too big, there was hardly any room left to write and address.

We think these are piffing things.

If the post office has the gumption to come out with

something like this to commemorate the Queen's visit to Canada for the Commonwealth Conference, then we can expect even better stamps in the years to come.

Why not bright Christmas stamps and scenes from Canadian history to liven up the stamp scene? Why not majestic portraits of the Queen?

Let's stamp out dullness in the stamp world even if people complain that the stamps are too big.

After all, those who complain often have big tongues, too. And that's the better to lick them with.



THE SETTLERS' BEST FRIEND—Oxen were the backbone of farm life in pre-Confederation rural Ontario. Hauling wood, pulling a plow and carting grain are all part of a day's work for Buck and Bright, led by Jack Cowan, livestock man at Black Creek Pioneer Village. These beasts of burden are real attention-

getters with sight-seers to the living outdoor museum complex. Black Creek, administered by The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, is located at Jane Street and Steeles Avenue in northwest Metro Toronto and can conveniently be reached by the Jane Street bus.

Sunday shopping would cost more

Sunday shopping will cost you more. This is the conclusion of a study made by the ad hoc Committee on Sunday Retailing. The Toronto Committee, composed of representatives from five major retail food stores, three retail unions, the Consumer's Association of Canada, the Retail Hardware Association, the churches, and the Lord's Day Alliance of Canada, prepared a model to show what would happen if all the major food stores were to open on Sunday.

If you remember that a model is an imitation of the real thing, you'll recognize that the full impact of Sunday shopping will be felt in higher costs to the consumer as well as in loss of permanent employment through the rearrangement of work hours.

This model only shows the additional wage costs to the individual store. Other cost factors are:

1. Saturday advertising for Sunday trading.
2. Re-scheduling of warehouse shipments.
3. Losses due to longer exposure of perishable items.
4. Head Office and maintenance services.
5. Theft due to fewer staff.

It is estimated that these additional cost factors would at least equal the 3.24 per cent wage increase. Based on this cost information a theoretical customer's order will increase in cost as follows:

OPERATING COSTS

	Store operating 6 days-a-week (All stores closed on Sunday)	Store operating 7 days-a-week (All stores open on Sunday)
Sales level:	\$75,000	\$75,000
Sunday Sales as percentage	—	7 1/2%
Productivity (sales per hour)	\$40	\$38.36
Hours	1,875	1,955
Wages	\$7,200	\$7,865
Wages as percent of sales	9.60	10.48
Increase on Wage Cost	—	9.24

Note: Consumers do not purchase more; the same sales volume is spread over seven days instead of six.

Present customer order	Future customer order due to labor increase	Future customer order due to labor and other costs
\$ 10.00 will become	\$10.09	\$ 10.18
\$ 20.00 will become	\$20.18	\$ 20.36
\$ 50.00 will become	\$ 50.44	\$ 50.88
\$100 will become	\$100.89	\$100.78

SUNDAY STAFFING REQUIREMENTS

	Full Time	Part Time	Hours
Store Manager	1	—	8
Grocery Clerk	—	2	8

It is evident that regardless of the volume of Sunday shopping, general Sunday store opening would increase the cost of doing business and would result in higher prices to the consumer. Also extra manpower would be obtained by redistributing the week's man hours, resulting in the reduction of one full-time employee in favor of increased part-time employment.

—The War Cry.



Bill Smiley

My wife cannot understand why anyone wants to travel when he can sit in his own backyard and commune with the gods. I'm beginning to agree with her.

Getting ready is kind of a pain in the arm, especially if you must have a vaccination.

Obtaining a passport sounds easy. Heck, it's more trouble than getting married or dying.

All you have to do is fill in a form. The form is slightly more complicated than your income tax form.

Then, you must find someone who will swear that you are who you say you are. This person is called a guarantor and can be practically anyone except your neighbor.

Then you must obtain a birth certificate. This is fairly simple if you know where you were born. If you don't, or you happened to be born in Zilch, Yugoslavia, it can be complex.

You must have passport photos taken. You can't just use an old snapshot in which you look your best. Passport photos are an old joke. They usually make you look like a zombie. Strangely, ours turned out well. We didn't pose for them, because we knew they'd be gruesome, so they came out relaxed.

Besides passports and birth certificates, there is a myriad of other potholes to look after, and you could use a full-time clerk for a week or two. Air tickets, money arrangements, hotel reservations, and who's going to feed the cat.

A travel agent is almost a must in these days, when half the world seems to be on the move. He or she can smooth a lot of

wrinkles and give valuable tips on how to win at least the occasional round in the game.

Many people go to big agencies in the city. My travel agent, a personable young local chap, couldn't have been more helpful and efficient. (Aside to Bill Mandly: everything, by golly, had better be right, after that.)

He told me something about air fares that is almost unbelievable. A return ticket to the U.K. can run all the way from a Christmas charter at \$187 to a regular flight at \$626 (under two weeks). I shudder to think what a first-class ticket would cost in the latter category.

Of course, a businessman can write off the \$626 as expenses, and to the little old lady going back for a visit after fifty years, that \$187 special might represent months of scrimping. Even so, something smells, in the discrepancy.

Traveling is not cheap, unless you want to swim across, which I've contemplated a couple of times as the bills mount. Only reason I haven't developed the idea is that my wife is a good swimmer, but only for about 30 yards. I'd hate to see her go down 30 yards off the Halifax docks, and have to do all the rest on my own, with nobody to tell me I was steering the wrong course.

Not cheap! Good gravy. Just looked over the items before we even left the house. Air ticket \$312; passport photo \$3; passport \$10; birth certificate \$3; limousine to airport \$8; Britrail pass \$70. Those are just the basics. Multiply by two if you're a couple.

Then there are the ever-present extras: new clothes, expenses to get to city to get passports, and the inevitable sundries, too numerous to mention, as the auction sale ads put it.

That's before you get on the plane. You still have to eat and sleep for three weeks after you get there. However, I've cut the whole thing down quite a bit by cancelling our two daily paper deliveries for three weeks. Saved about \$6.50 right there.

Our Britrail pass allows us to go anywhere in the U.K. It may come in handy. We may be riding trains all night, every night, to save hotel bills. And we're taking along an eight-pound salami and six loaves of bread, so we might come through.

I have a vague idea that this column will not go down as one of the greatest pieces of exotic travel literature ever written.

But it is a little hectic around here. Six hours to takeoff, my wife is just beginning to pack, I have to go down and sell my soul to the bank manager, get up to the school and look after some items for September, see young Wilson next door about feeding the cat, call the boy about mowing the lawn, pick up the dry-cleaning, get the books back to the library, and, somehow in there, try to have a shower and shave. We might make it, but I wouldn't bet higher than even money.

I'll try to do better next week, when you'll have a despatch from The Nug's head, Middle Wallop, England.

Vic's roasting pot

Because I'm such a puddle pup, I built a back yard pool. No reason why I shouldn't try. To keep my blubber cool.

There's nothing like a backyard pool. To keep down excess freight, I'll float around and maybe drown. Or lose a little weight.

When I waddle out to dunk my lard, And bake each little cheek, My old age spread is turning red, And the neighbors come and peck.

I have no hair and people stare, The neighbors are so nosy, In my pot of stew I barbeque, Till everything turns rosy.

When I've cooked my underside, I turn and roast some more, When rendering fat, I baste and pat Then lay down on the floor.

Now, I've built a peek-proof fence, To hide the things I've got, So the government guys, tax greedy eyes, Can't see my roasting pot.

Victor Smith

Back Issues of The Free Press

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, August 27, 1953.

Believed killed in action in Korea, Pte. D. J. (Jimmy) Gunn was liberated Monday with seven other Canadians. He lived and worked in Acton prior to his enlistment in the paratroopers. He was reported missing after he had apparently volunteered for sniper duty.

Dr. G. A. Sirrs, well-known in Acton and a leader in minor sports work, died suddenly on Friday while holidaying in the east. He meant a lot to Acton sports and assisted in giving many youngsters their chance. He coached and managed many hockey and baseball teams while he practiced dentistry here.

Miss M. Z. Bennett has been presented with the highest award the Federation of Women Teachers of Ontario can confer. A life membership in the association was dinner to her and seven others at a public school for 32 years, 19 of them as principal. She retired in June 1953.

Residents of Mason and McDonald Blvds. think there could be a more pleasant name for their area of town than "The Wartime Housing". One suggestion is "The Peacetime!" Any more suggestions should be sent to the Free Press.

Sirens will scream and four fire trucks will converge on Acton for another Mutual Aid fire practice on Friday, fire chief Sam Tennant reports. This is the first demonstration of this kind slated for Acton.

The oldest established business in Acton changed ownership this week when Elliott Bros. sold their general store to H. H. Hinton. This business at the corner of Mill and Willow was established by Henderson and Christie. It had been a general store for 75 years or more.

Farm workers Compensation covered

Most farmers are aware of the fact their workers are covered under the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Act. As a matter of interest, they have been obliged to cover their workers since 1966. However, some of the details of coverage bear repeating for those farm operators who don't fully understand the whole picture.

The assessment rate for farm workers is divided into two categories: one covers the operation of chicken and turkey farms, mushroom, tobacco, nursery, market gardens and florist farms. That assessment rate is \$1.50 per \$100 payroll. The second is \$3.35 per \$100 and covers Christmas tree, dairy, stock, hog and general farms, and those operators performing custom cash crop operations.

Those farmers who engage in both types of operations and can show a separation of duties and maintain a separate payroll, may be eligible for assessment under both rates. For further information about this, an operator should contact the Toronto

Head Office of The Workmen's Compensation Board at 90 Harbour Street.

Any person who is paid a stated wage and works under control and supervision is automatically covered and is eligible for benefits under the Act.

The employer must record the employee's name and wages in his payroll records. Members of the farmer's family, except his wife are considered as workmen when paid a stated wage. This information must be recorded on the wages-paid form in the section for "Relatives of Employer and Partner." Room and board is included at a rate of \$2 per day or \$14 per week, except in the instance where the employer has a son or daughter still attending school.

Farmers and wives may apply for personal coverage in any amount between \$4,000 and \$10,000 per year. This coverage may be requested for part of the year only, and this must be indicated when applied for. When such application is made, the amount of the employer's earnings or

Mini-Comment

Remember those double decker ice cream cones popular before World War II? Or how about the big jumbo scoops that sold for a nickel? This column isn't in the business of promoting products but if you are in Campbellville at any time drop into Curtis Corner Store. Memories will flood back as you behold shoppers buying the biggest ice cream bargain we've seen for 25c since the double decker went out of style. They are hand dipped and so large you'll have trouble eating it faster than it melts.

Perhaps the Parks Board should set a new regulation to prohibit fishing in the area behind Acton arena where pens for waterfowl are situated. One member of the staff reports he had to leave over the weekend in the event one of the many anglers caught a duck or swan in his hook instead of fish. He says there were about a dozen fishermen running lines through the flocks of ducks and geese.

Thank you for all the expressions of congratulations sent this way regarding the two awards the Free Press won in the Canada-wide newspaper competitions. We are especially proud of the award for community service, for this is essentially what a weekly newspaper is all about. If there is no service to the community then the slickest

newspaper fails in its mission. Front page laurels are always appreciated too, of course, but never as much as special community service awards for service beyond the call of duty.

After 20 years at his post of school crossing guard, Cam Leishman has decided he'll turn in his hat and sign and let a younger man take over the duties at the Queen St. crossing, when school resumes in less than two weeks. It takes a special kind of person to man the crossings. They must have patience and understanding as well as the ability to read traffic. As Councillor Orv Chapman remarked, "He'll be missed by a lot of kids."

That \$11,000 haul of appliances and furniture recovered by Acton and Milton O.P.P. last week was a real feather in their caps as well as a tribute to the lady who informed them there was something "fishy" going on at Speyside. Unfortunately, our reporter got his names mixed up. Constable Paul Brown, not Constable Wood, of the Acton O.P.P. was the officer who started the investigation rolling.

Someone has asked why a headline in last week's Free Press mentioned a "bath night" opener for a lacrosse play-off. "Bath-night—what's that?" he enquired. Like all sports expressions it

originated in the fertile mind of a reporter who got tired of writing "Saturday night". In the old days Saturday was when you took a bath in a galvanized tub to be clean and shiny for Sunday. Hence the expression "bath-night".

The Oakville Daily Journal Record is urging Burlington and Oakville to back Milton's brief opposing the 401 route for the 500 KV power line from Middleport to Pickering, claiming they have a direct interest in any plan that will adversely affect the open space and the natural beauty of the countryside because tax money from the south has been used to develop open space areas in North Halton. My, my. Then why not run the line through Oakville and Burlington and other urban communities where most of the province's demand for electricity originates? Development is also the fount where much of the tax money comes from. Highway 401 is the best route for the utility—as well as being the shortest.

The race for the mayor's chair in the new town of North Halton is shaping up into a battle for three Georgetown candidates with only Reeve Tom Hill of Esquewong so far appearing from the other two municipalities to challenge the Georgetown men. At this date it appears unlikely anyone from Acton will contest the seat. Thinking is, of course, that the mayor will almost control the council because there will be six councillors from Georgetown and three from both Acton and Esquewong.

50 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, August 23, 1923.

There will be over 100 pipers, an unprecedented event in the history of Scottish music in Canada, in the welcome to be extended to the Scottish Regiment which is

75 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, August 18, 1898.

Another landmark has been removed. Contractor Dynes has removed the Steel cottage from its original foundation at the corner of Mill and Willow St. to the rear of the lot. The building was erected 46 years ago by the late William Steel and his brother, the late George Steel, both of whom were carpenters and removed from Toronto. Mr. Thomas Perryman Sr. plastered the cottage and is still able to do a good day's work at this trade, though past four score.

Twenty of the new Lee-Enfield rifles have arrived for the use of the 20th Battalion. They are built on the most modern principles and will kill at 2 1/2 miles.

Usually on Civic Holiday our citizens go out of town to seek pleasure but on this occasion — next Tuesday, 23rd inst. — a program so varied and attractive is being arranged that residents will feel there is no place like home for the day. The program will open with a calisthumpian procession and events of the day will include a lacrosse match, baseball match, decorated bicycle parade, bicycle and foot races, five mile matched bicycle race between Ballietville, Georgetown, and Barry, Acton, band concert and an array of talent comprising superior artists in the evening. The object is a most laudable one: the town hall piano fund.

Mr. and Mrs. Hortop and son James are leaving Everton to take care of their mills at Eden, making that their future home.

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