

# EVENTS



OUR BOYS returning from camp, photographed by A. T. Brown in July, 1898. They're coming west along Mill, at the spot where the Y.M.C.A. is now.

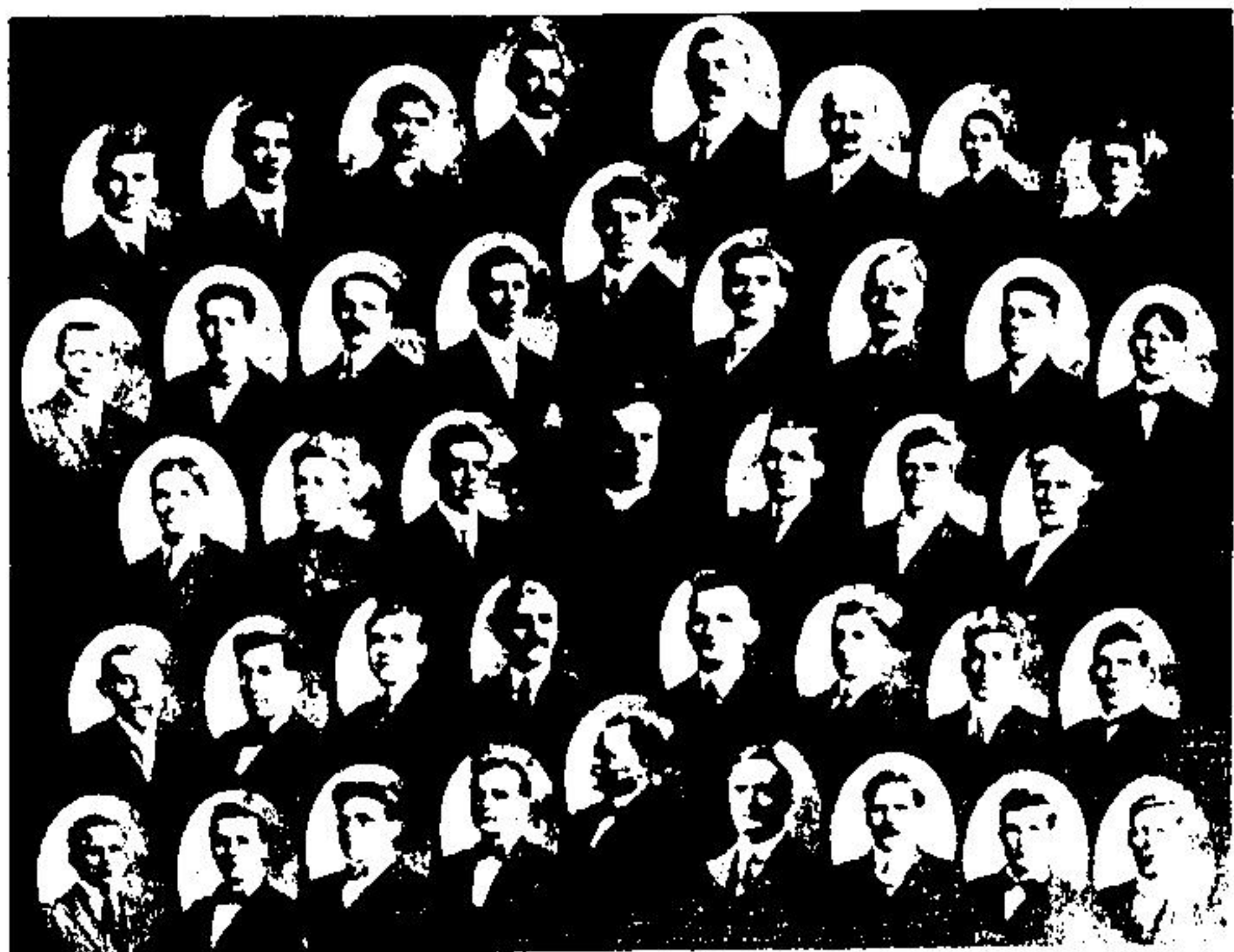


JANUARY 7, 1901, arches, banner and signs on Mill between Willow and John welcomed Gunner Billy Gould home from the war in South Africa. Over 2,000 gathered at the station as the Cornet Band played Home Sweet Home as the parade headed down the street for a presentation of a gold watch. Acton's other soldier to the South African war, Stanley Moore, was buried there. Only vehicles were horses and sleighs and streets were never plowed.

## Changes coming at hotels



TONSORIAL APPENDAGES were dexterously abbreviated at Sandy McLean's barber shop in 1921. Sandy's at left with customer Roy Arnold in the chair and another well-known barber Harry Mainprize at right. McLean's barber shop was a favorite spot to chat, play checkers and warm up by that pot bellied stove.



KING'S ORDERLIES Bible class, early in the first World War. Top to bottom, left to right, Jack Nelson, Austin Cutting, Jim Loutell, Frank Kennedy, George Murray, Robert Brown, Will Evans, Orwell Johnson, next row Frank Spielsvogel, Joyce, Wilkie, Bert Caldwell, Ed Geer, Neil McNabb, Henry Denny, Earl Vincent, Joe Watson, next row Arthur Watson, John Moore, Martin Moffat, minister Charles Draper, Vic Coleman, Nelson Moore, Win H Stewart, next row down William Brown, Jim Holloway, Ern Brown, James Snyder, Bill McNabb, unknown, George Elliott, Richard Brown, bottom row Harvey Rath, Watson, Victor Gunton, Ross Burt, H.P. Moore, A. T. Brown, William James, Fred Masales, Nelson Lambert.

For some the hotels were the centre of social life and apparently it has been a daily occurrence to see people, young and old, intoxicated on the streets.

Times were changing. There had been four taverns and a couple of stores licensed to sell liquor but in 1874 there are only two tavern licenses, to the Rossin House and Dominion Hotel. But feeling was growing for temperance and prohibition is on its way.

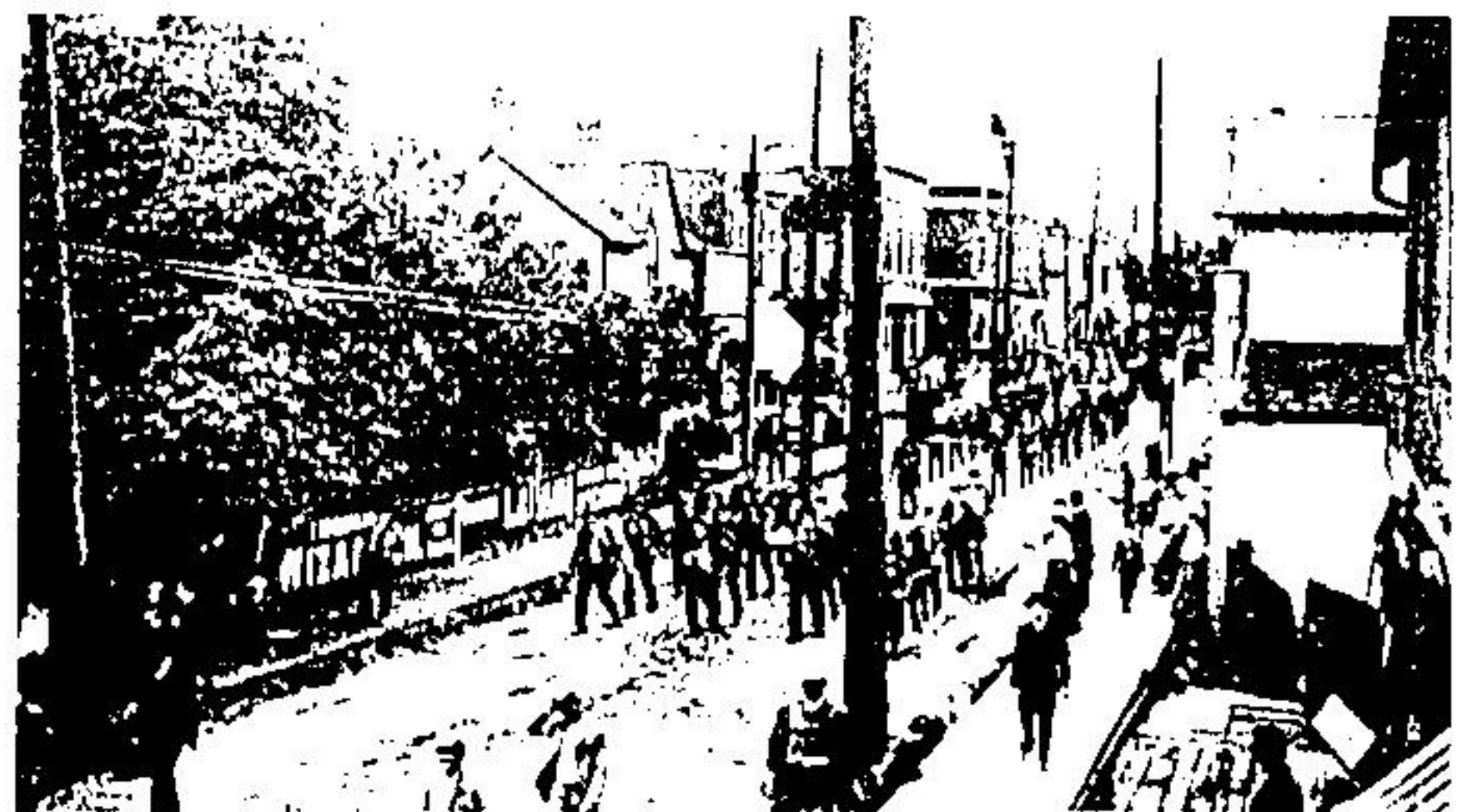
The Rossin House (at the Station Hotel site) was close to the station and advertised "excellent accommodation for the travelling public".

Robert Agnew was the proprietor of the Dominion Hotel. "This new hotel is fitted up in first class style. Bar supplied with the best liquors and cigars. Good Stabling and Attentive Hostlers." It's a new building, which replaced a log hotel on the prime site.

When the Agnews came to Acton they ran the California

Tavern near the Main St creek but they moved nearer to the centre of the village and had this new hotel built. The name was proudly given for the new Dominion of Canada. In a few years Mr. Agnew was to become enraged at the law forbidding the sale of liquor and for a while he refused all other services as well, to both man and beast.

There were also Dickin's Hotel and The Royal Exchange Hotel.



FIREMEN'S convention here in 1908 was highlighted by a parade. Some of the units are headed down Mill toward Main St.



CALITHR MFLAN PARADES were a feature of early Acton and they brought out the fire brigade's pumbers and the town band seen marching down Mill St. Recognize the old United Church, Mainprize's house and what is now the Acton Shoe Repair?