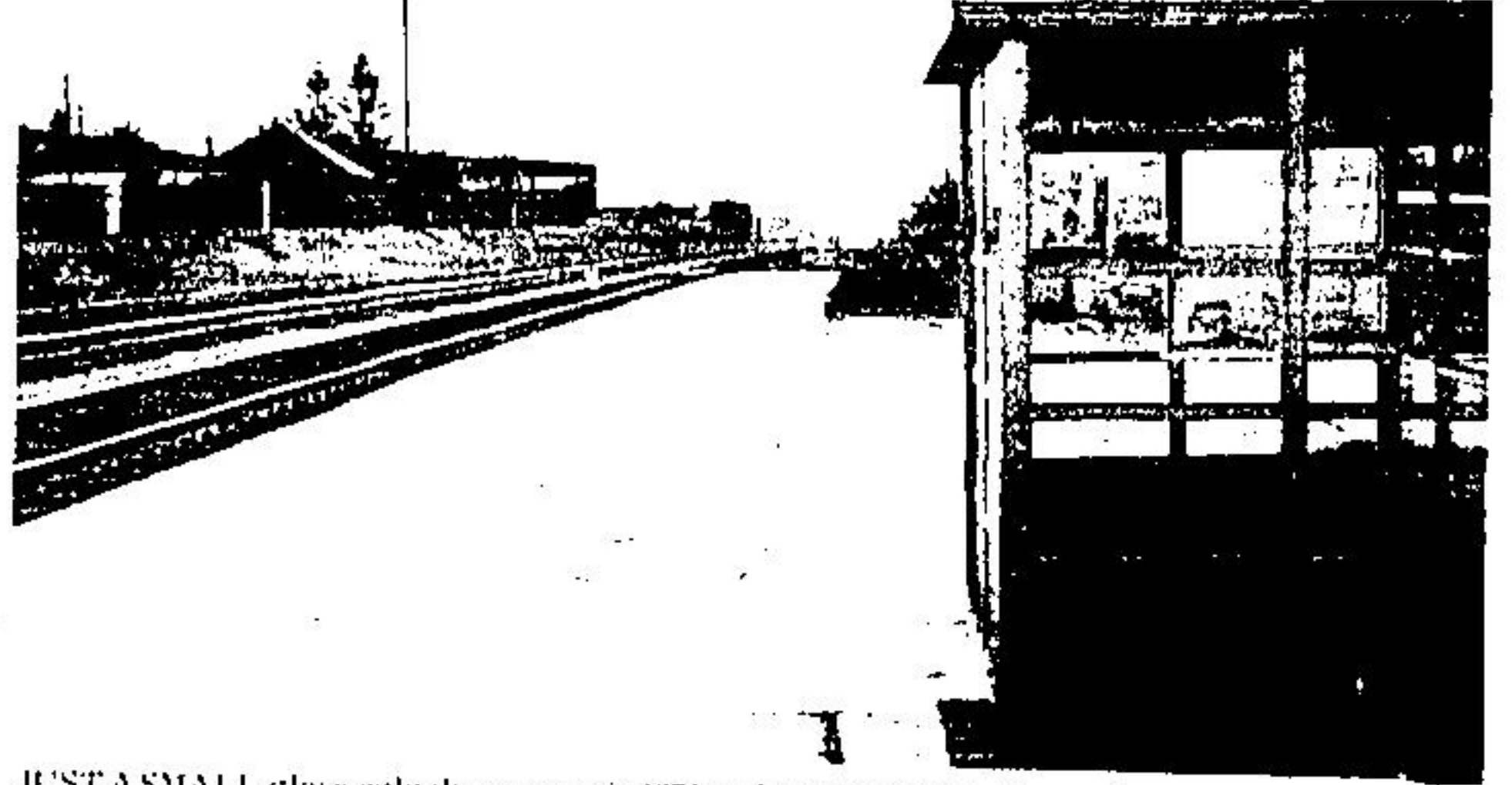


# TRAVEL



RAILWAY STATION hummed with activity years ago. Freight, mail and passengers were all carried with several trains stopping each day and a full staff on duty.



JUST A SMALL glass cubicle remains in 1974 at Acton station, to keep a few commuters out of the weather. The turreted old station was sold and dismantled for scrap. Most diesels pass right through and number of travellers is drastically cut.

## THEN & NOW



THE GRAND TRUNK railway station in 1905 had oil lamps on the side, and the porch at the left was the entrance to the office. The water tank, just north, got first consideration. Its filling pipe dripped copiously over the sidewalk and in winter a pile of ice formed. Inside there was a pot-bellied stove, oil lamps and hard benches—well occupied, because train was the main method of travel.



THIS PHOTOGRAPH may have been taken from the top of the grain elevator that stood along the siding and was owned by Robert Noble. It was a landmark until destroyed by fire 40 years ago. The Grand Trunk Station and yards are in the centre; the water tank long gone. The building now owned by Frank Heller and Co. is at the left. All the land now occupied by Building Products warehouse, Blow Press, A. P. Green company and Warren Grove was vacant.

## A tourist sees village progress

"Recent visitor" took a jaunt up to the village of Acton on a summer day in August, 1873.

For the Canadian Champion at Milton Mr. Recent Visitor wrote his impressions.

"A short synopsis of the progress of the village of Acton may be interesting to some of your readers.

"On passing up Mill St. we come to the Glasgow House run by Christie, Henderson and Co the well known Miltonians who through an increase of business, the result of their spirit to push and enterprise, have in contemplation an extending of their premises to meet the ever increasing business, which attends their exertions. They are big buyers of wool and staple produce.

### Fifty hands

"Passing further up the street we come to the Canada Glove Works where some fifty hands find constant employment. The firm consists of W. H. Storey, Dr. McGarvin and Jas. Moore.

The quantity of gloves turned out from this establishment form no inconsiderable item of export from this place. As an instance of the demand for material for gloves, it keeps a tannery going to get the raw material into shape, to be worked into elegant and fanciful forms, which are a requisite and a luxury in winter as well as summer.

"By the way, this firm have engaged English and American cutters, so that the latest styles and the newest novelties are constantly being turned out to meet the demands of the trade throughout the country.

"The fancy needlework and sewing department being under the management of an American lady, Miss Washburn.

### Known all over

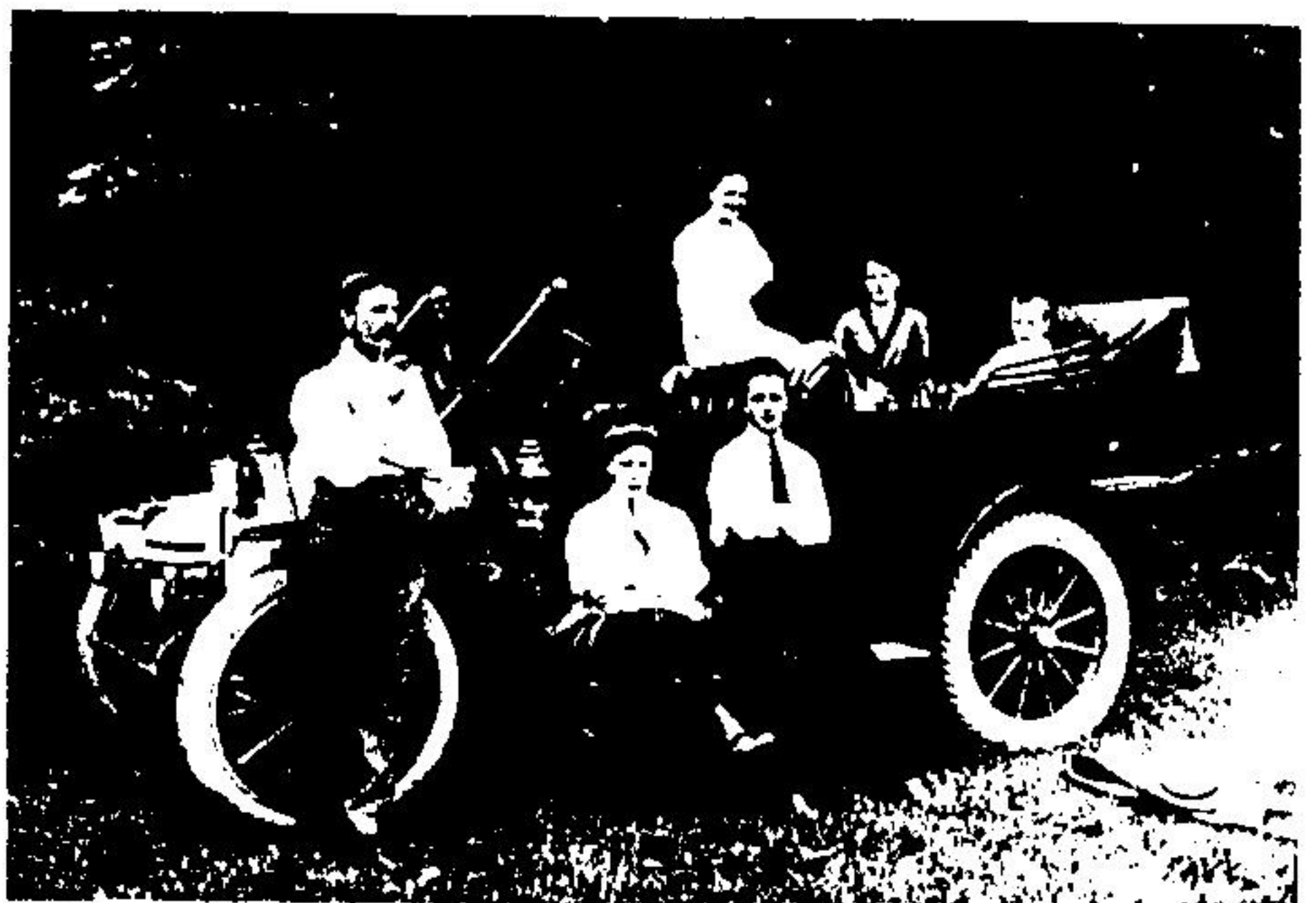
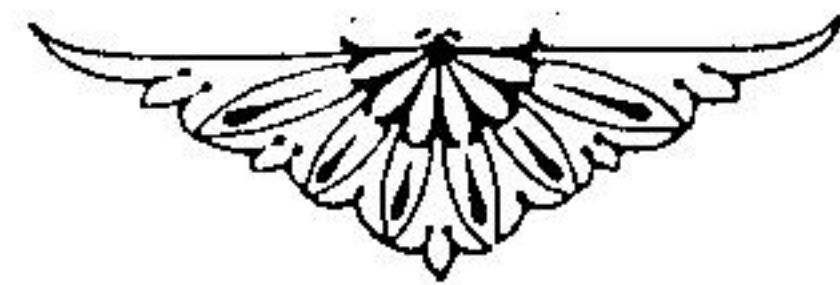
"Passing still further up street we come to the Acton Livery Stables of Ed Matthews, who is well known all over. He supplies a want long needed here, a first class livery with good rigs and horses at moderate charges. His motto is "no monopoly"

but by the calls he has one would think he monopolizes that branch of business in Acton.

"Across the street from his place a neat rough cast building just put up reminds us it is the Acton Bakery. Coming back there is no new feature of any account till we come to the elegant new building to be christened the Acton Post Office and Town Hall, being built by our enterprising citizen, Jas. Matthews, P.M.

"Passing further down we come to another new enterprise, the Acton Drug Store. This is under the personal management of the proprietor, a gentleman from the other side, Mr. Chas. Manders, who is earning the good will and confidence of Acton and vicinity. We were invited to a drink of the delicious ice cool soda water from his new fountain, which was very acceptable during our limited stay, on a hot, dusty day, in Acton."

And so read the travelogue. No colored slides.



ELEGANT LIVING with a touring car. Purchase of a new car was worth recording in the Free Press in those days.