

Free Press Editorial Page

## New high school soon

Acton's desperate need for a new high school, as put before the school board by trustee Tom Watson, has resulted in the unanimous decision to push aside plans for a new high school in Milton in favor of Acton.

Neither Georgetown nor Milton have grown at the same speedy rate as Acton, figures given to the board showed.

The high school here is filled with two portables out back already and two more due to be set up in September.

Principal Dave Katz, jubilant at the decisions, points out the staff and students have been working in a 'shorthanded' building for years. "It's very exciting news," he told the Free Press.

Trustee Tom Watson is another one who is very pleased with the board's decision. He is also pleased about the site, although negotiations aren't quite complete yet.

He approves the size that will be built and explains that an addition can go on it to accommodate plenty more people. However he thinks 1200 would be the ideal limit for a school here.

The changes will affect all the schools here, not just the high school.

The old high school will become a middle school for grades six, seven and eight.

The Robert Little and M. Z. Bennett schools will house kindergarten to grade five classes.

The new school might make modern new use of space too, by incorporating walls which can be moved to best advantage. Suggestions will likely be forwarded to the school board by the high school staff.

It usually take a full two years for a new school to be ready, after approvals are given. The Lester Pearson school in Burlington, for instance, won't be open until September 1976. At its present stage, its steel work is complete and it's half bricked. This is Dave Katz' new domain.

For Acton's new high school to be open at the target date of September 1977, the builders will have to break ground this fall.

The siting of the new school east of Churchill Rd. in formerly farmland also brings to the fore the probability of the school being surrounded by new houses before too long.

Certainly all the changes won't be in education. It's a whole new era for all the town, as well as its young scholars.



GREAT WEATHER for flying. Walter Binden tunes up a toy plane on the parking lot of Acton high school Saturday afternoon. With him are Richard and Michael Binden, Scott McLaren, Sean Dryden, David and Chris Hahn.

## Garretts will be missed

Best wishes for a happy retirement in Toronto go from town this week with Dr. and Mrs. Doug Garrett. His patients are the ones who will miss him most; many of them have found it difficult changing to another doctor after having had his care, advice and friendship over many years.

His effect on our town can never

be measured, for his contribution was in a unique and very private way.

The whole family found a niche in the community and different people will miss them in different ways—through sports, arts and crafts, business and social life.

Thanks very much for having been here.

## Thoughts in spring

This spring has been warm and fine, and the park has seen plenty of use already. Swimmers, sailors, fishermen, ball players, picnickers have all made an early start at summer's pleasures this year. It's a beautiful place to be on a weather-happy day.

someone will let the Free Press know.

His book contains short stories, one of which is concerned with—quote—"dissolution, death and the continuance of life upon some new plane."

"He has a supple prose style and a nice sense of the macabre, but his narratives lack an inner drive or dramatic necessity," says the reviewer.

Fine. But is he the Acton Fred Euringer?

The local pick-your-own strawberry fields should be ready by or on June 20, according to the local Department of Agriculture. The crop looks good with the berries sizing well.

The time of eating strawberries with real taste is here again, and many are looking forward to it.

Many in town will want to add their congratulations to Herb Ritchie, along with those of his fellow Lodge members. Walker Lodge held Herb Ritchie night, and there his friends sang his praises. He has been a toprate citizen of the town all his life.

If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them. —Henry David Thoreau

The Toronto Star Saturday carried a review of a new book that sounds interesting. The title is a Dream of Horses and the price is \$3.50. These aren't the interesting things, though—it's the name of the author, Fred Euringer. Can he be the Fred Euringer who left Acton to study drama and write plays? Surely it must be, and perhaps

Milton's St. John Ambulance brigade, like Acton's, has found itself in difficulties with dwindling numbers of members. However the group will be able to carry on at near-normal capacity this summer. There are 19 persons in the brigade there.

The few Acton members left have joined the Milton group.

## Voters find a way

In a poll conducted by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, most favored the Monday of the first week in December for municipal elections. And four-to-one, the municipalities favored a two year term of office.

The Monday vote in this district comes on a "closed" day as far as stores are concerned, but the polls stay open latish and probably this doesn't prevent anyone from voting.

People who want to vote find a

way, no matter the day or the weather.

## They say . . .

A pessimist is one who complains about the noise made when opportunity knocks.

Overeating—the destiny that shapes our ends.



## Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley

As regular readers of this column are aware, there are a great many things that bother me. On the whole, I'm glad of it. May I never become one of those people who are never bothered about anything, or if they are, don't have enough guts to say or do anything about it.

The list is endless: Celsius temperatures; those silly organs at hockey games; strident Women's Libbers; stupid male chauvinists; gutless politicians; lawless unions; greedy big business; chicken bureaucrats; tire-squealing adolescents of any age; mindless beer ads; town engineers who want to cut down trees; snotty hotel desk clerks; religious fanatics; ripoff artists in the social services; the Receiver-General of Canada; most administrators; most people who make more money than I do. I could fill a column.

This should make me a very disturbed young man. I use the term advisedly. How come everyone is getting old but you and me?

Fortunately, this has not happened. There are so many things I like that I am usually in a state of happy balance, like a fat lady going on a diet of ice cream sundaes.

However, there is one thing in this country that grivels me thoroughly. It's a nasty thing, spreading like a cancer, as difficult to fight, and just as fatal to the people infected.

That thing is the steady growth in this country, fostered by a small, often vicious, but vociferous minority, of Anti-Americanism.

I don't think it has yet grown to uncontrollable proportions in the corpus Canadensis, and I hope it can be cut out with some rigorous surgery in the right places.

It's a creepy, crawling business, and the healthy mind can be smeared with it subtly, without even noticing its existence.

## OUR READERS WRITE:

### Metric . . . Why?

We're not supposed to reason. No one would dare to ask. Our Government though, will need more dough. To complete the metric task.

In these days of Conservation. We're asked to do with less. No reason why, we must supply. The money for this mess.

Why should we borrow money. When our economy's running rough. Why must we pay, to change our way. To all this metric stuff.

The wisdom of our many years. Must be wasted overnight. We already owe, yet spend more dough. To change from Fahrenheit.

It may be said that if we learn This metric measures well. Our salesman "Joe" can get more dough. For everything he'll sell.

So, now we buckle up our belt. To pay for oil in litres. But close our eyes, conservation-wise. While we travel kilometers.

Victor Smith  
R. R. 2, Rockwood.

### Believer in food cure

The Editor, Acton Free Press.

Dear Sir: After seeing a descendant of one of our pioneer families laid low with leukemia, an old childhood habit of mine came foremost in my mind. I was always looking up words in the dictionary. So I produced my 'King's English' dictionary, and an old encyclopaedia and commenced my search. I was told the disease worked in the bone. So I turned to bone-marrow, and it said: "An oleaginous substance in the cavities of the bone." I then learned that oleo meant oil, particularly that of beef fat. Remembering that oleo-margarine was the first name of our butter substitute, I

wondered if beef fat was still used in the manufacture of margarine.

If so, would it not be a good bone-building food for leukemia patients? I have read somewhere that there is also a gelatine substance in bone, which indicates that the jelly from boiled chicken or beef, or even that in the little packet, would be an effective food. I am a great believer in the food cure.

I talked this over with the kindly mother, and she sent me on my way with a right good cup of tea.

I hope any doctor reading this, will not laugh at my unscientific research work.

Yours truly,  
Millicent Milroy.

It's hard to pin down: You can find it among educators, in the press, among politicians, and in varying degrees of shrillness throughout the media.

Many honest nationalists are taken in, and eventually find that their pride in things Canadian has been warped into Anti-Americanism. Let there be no mistake. There is no real connection. The former is healthy. The latter is sick.

This has always been a country loaded with prejudice, whatever you may think. A couple of generations back, the Anglo-Saxons of this fine free country of ours looked down their noses, even though their own background was an English slum, a Scottish croft or an Irish shanty.

They spoke bluntly and disparagingly of lesser breeds. Germans and Scandinavians were Squareheads. Italians were Wops or Dagoes. French were neither Canadian nor Canadian. They were Frogs or Peasouper. Everybody from Eastern Europe to the Ukraine was a Hunkie. A black person was a Nigger. And a Jew? Well, a Jew certainly wasn't Jewish. He was "just a Jew." The only thing lower than any of these categories was a woman.

Think I'm romancing? It sounds pretty ugly, doesn't it? But I was there, gentle reader, and so were many of you.

With education, enlightenment, and a fine performance by most of those lowly immigrants, came a change in atmosphere. It became fashionable to be "tolerant" a word that has always made me squirm.

But not before the private schools, and the law societies and the medical schools and the golf clubs had had their Wasps-only barricades knocked down. It was ugly in this country.

The grandchildren of those earlier prejudiced people showed a remarkable lack of that narrowness. Canada was becoming an oasis of freedom for the individual. People were leaning over backward to prove they were liberal and "tolerant."

And now all that narrowness and secret hatred seems to be channeling itself into Anti-Americanism.

People in this country talked endlessly about Watergate, as though such a sewer of corruption were peculiar to Americans. They sniggered about the antics of American leaders.

There was a particularly nasty type of something near gloating when the Americans pulled out of Vietnam.

There was and is a proliferating of popular articles about the Americans owning Canadian industry, buying up Canadian property.

Let's put an end to this slimy business. Let's look at our own dredging scandals and lawless unions.

Let's stop secretly cheering when the Yanks get a bloody nose somewhere.

It's not their fault that they're rich and powerful. They didn't seize our industry. We sold it to them.

France and Britain virtually ignored Canada when this country was abuilding. We owe them nothing.

We could have a lot worse neighbors than the Americans, in fact almost anyone I can think of.

Anti-Americanism is chiefly petty envy, and is found only among those who are petty and envious. We're too big for that.

## The Free Press Back Issues

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, June 16, 1959.

Pastor Ray Sottrus, a student himself, told members of Acton's public school's graduating class about the school he attended in China at their banquet on Monday evening. The annual graduation banquet in honor of grade eight pupils is sponsored by the Home and School Association.

Following the toast to the Queen proposed by master of ceremonies David Pent and grace by Rev. Evan Jones, over 60 enjoyed the dinner with ham salad plate, chocolate cake and ice cream. Mothers of the pupils served, under the leadership of Mrs. J. Creighton and Mrs. C. Cook.

Miss Barnard led a sing song with Mrs. Turner at the piano, and also sang several solos.

Laurie Duby introduced the speaker and Don Cook thanked him, and made a presentation of a tie clip and cuff links.

Rev. and Mrs. Ralph Price, formerly of Acton, were hosts to Acton ministers and their families at the annual ministerial picnic last Friday, at their rectory in Font-hill in the Niagara peninsula.

Rev. and Mrs. Armstrong and David, David, Rev. and Mrs. E. Jones, Rev. and Mrs. E. Currey, Pastor and Mrs. Costerus and daughters attended. Mr. Currey invited the group to visit him next year.

50 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, June 25, 1925.

Just a year ago Rev. J. Culp came to Acton from Tara as the minister of the Methodist Church. He was cordially received and he and Mrs. Culp entered upon his work with high hopes and the expectation of a long pastorate. Last spring a nervous breakdown developed and from this he failed to recover. His physician ordered cessation from the onerous duties of the ministry for a time, and a change of climate. Having a son and daughter living in California, Mr. and Mrs. Culp decided to go to them for a time in the hope that improved health would result. With this in view he advised the Official Board of the church here, and applied to the Hamilton Conference for superannuation for a year.

The pastoral term ended with June, and last Sunday Rev. Mr. Culp concluded his work here with impressive farewell sermons. In his concluding words, Rev. Mr. Culp said, "It is only that I am obliged to that I give up the ministry. I am glad that I have had this year in Acton, for in many respects it has been the best of my ministry."

The annual convention of the Halton and Wentworth W.C.T.U. was held in the United Church, Milton last Thursday.

Mrs. (Rev.) H. Caldwell, of Georgetown, the President occupied the chair.

At the morning session interesting reports were presented by the various unions and Y's of the counties.

A picnic lunch was held at noon, and a Blue Ribbon Tea at team time. Both of these functions were enjoyed.

Mrs. James Symon, Mrs. H. P. Moore, Mrs. George Somerville and Misses Jean Kennedy, Viola Rumley, Marguerite Symon and Dorothy Campbell were present from Acton.

75 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, June 21, 1900.

The midsummer examinations in Acton Public School take place tomorrow afternoon. The principal and staff unite in extending a cordial invitation to all parents and friends of the scholars. The five departments will be open to the public. The High School Entrance candidates go to Georgetown next Wednesday for their examinations. Acton Public School will send a class of twenty-one.

Acton Fire Brigade will hold their annual garden party on Tuesday, 28th June, in the park, when prizes will be offered for the following sports: Bicycle race, open to all; matched bicycle race between J. Sharp and C. Holmes; 300 yard slow bicycle race; boy's bicycle race; best decorated bicycle; men's and boys' foot races; tug of war between teams of firemen and citizens.

The interest in the proposal of the Second Re-Union of Pupils of 1862-71, to erect a monument to the memory of the late Robert Little, their teacher of the above date, is meeting with very gratifying response.

The local committee feel so confident that ultimate success will be reached that they last week instructed the Monument Committee to go on and order the monument executed.

## THE ACTON FREE PRESS

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