

Population growing

Someone who's in a good position to guess thinks Acton's population must be up to 6,500. Another thinks 7,000. And new people are still moving in regularly to Bovis and Kingham Hill subdivisions.

Again it poses the big problem of what's wanted for Acton.

Last week's paper headlined a decision to turn down a subdivision that would have given us over 3,000 more people. The reason was the insufficient capacity of the sewage disposal plant. But planners know

this is a surmountable problem. Ways will soon be developed to increase capacity of these plants in new and super-efficient ways.

When that day comes, subdivisions will likely be approved, unless there's plenty of opposition for some particular reason. The goal of saving agricultural land hasn't held up vast subdivisions in Milton, Georgetown, Guelph or even Toronto.

The planning survey underway now should help us picture what's ahead.

Summer afternoon

"Summer afternoon - summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language," said writer Henry James.

He wrote it a century ago, but things on a summer afternoon are just the same. Even better, since we are free to wear far fewer clothes these days!

Summer sunshine is one of the most delightful things you can get for nothing these days.

There are plenty of ways to enjoy it right at home. Your own

apartment balcony or your own patch of grass. Your barbecue. Then there's the lake, with its beautiful surroundings. Take a walk on back roads. Play tennis. Swim. Read. Lounge... tan.

Get high on fresh air, not alcohol.

Let's forget that winter-time statistic that says 40 per cent of Canadians watch more than 15 hours of television a week, and that 80 per cent don't take any physical activity.

Enjoy... in the sunshine!

Laws regulate mopeds

New legislation defining mopeds and their operation goes into effect immediately.

The new legislation now makes it illegal for anyone under 16 years of age to operate a moped on Ontario roadways.

It also makes it illegal for anyone to carry a passenger on a moped.

A Free Press "on the street poll" several months ago revealed most people questioned thought some controls were needed. The voice of the people has been heeded by the government.

Under Section 1 of The Highway Traffic Act, a motor assisted bicycle or moped must not weigh more than 120 pounds, it may not have a piston displacement of more

than 50 cubic centimetres and it may not have a hand or foot operated clutch or gearbox driven by the motor and transferring power to the wheel. A moped must have pedals which are operable to propel it at all times and it may not be able to travel faster than 30 miles per hour on level ground within a distance of one mile from a standing start.

Municipalities have also been given the authority to ban mopeds on roadways under their jurisdiction where the speed limit is 50 miles per hour or more. Halton Hills has no such legislation yet.

Additional legislation requiring licences for both the moped and the driver and the wearing of helmets will become effective later.

Bits and pieces

Congratulations to Ernest West, now appointed a judge. Acton friends can look back on his days as a debater with the Junior Farmers and see how his interests have developed into a fine career. He has been a lawyer in Kitchener since graduation from Osgoode Hall.

+ + +

Statistic: about one out of every 10 North Americans go camping each year. It's a pleasant and reasonably-priced way to enjoy your holidays.

Reading is another summer pleasure. Here are a couple of quotes for the bookworm bunch.

I love my books as drinkers love their wine; the more I drink, the more they seem divine. — Francis Bennoch

Books are the legacies that a great genius leaves to mankind. — Addison

My library was dukedom large enough. — Shakespeare

Our readers write

Renaissance brief astray

To The Editor:

On July 7, 1975 H.R.C. sent a brief addressed to the chairman and trustees of the Halton Board of Education. The brief was designed to answer without any doubt, the board's rebuttal to our original brief regarding apparent malpractices in the Halton educational system. Our latest brief contains abundant documented facts, figures and names to prove our allegations once and for all. Some of our facts were so open it prompted the director of education to call the president of the OSSTF to find out where we got our information.

H.R.C. has subsequently learned from trustees that the brief addressed to them, had not been forwarded to them by their chairman, Judy Alexander. We have also been informed that Mrs. Alexander has instead given a copy to Mr. Lavender, the Director of Education. We maintain, we did not send Mr. Lavender a copy for obvious reasons.

An inquiry of this was made by a telephone conversation with Mrs. Alexander. She informed me at first, the trustees received a copy at the last board meeting. When I said this was not so, she wondered if H.R.C. sent them a copy. Somehow the two ideas conflicted. Then I was told copies would be sent right away. The next day I received a letter informing the trustees would receive their copies the Aug. 12 Board meeting.

Why was a copy given to Mr. Lavender? Why not sent to him. Why not to the trustees? Why all the variation in stories? Why the delay? Who is Mrs. Alexander's ally, and who is she working for? We don't know.

I had a copy sent to the people mailed to—immediately and kept

the hokum-pokum, Judy. In light of this, as Communications Co-ordinator, I feel it is imperative we allow the trustees and taxpayers to have a shortened version of our facts.

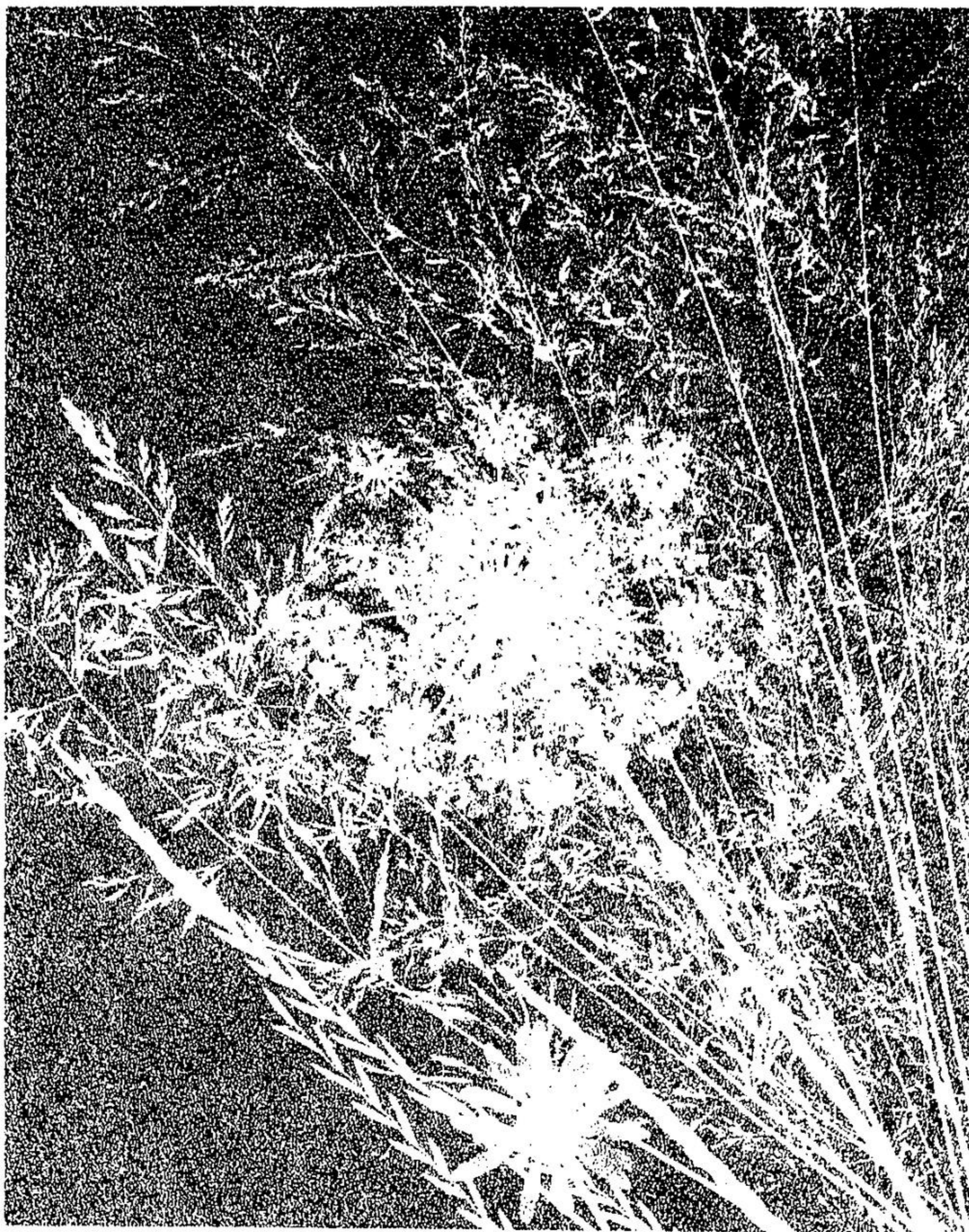
Renaissance has proven there was no educational philosophy in Halton until three years after the Halton Board's operation. Pressures brought to bear by a trustee, John Ronson and the OSSTF, made a philosophy possible. Before this, experimentation was the name of the game and promotions followed. There were changes in Oakville and the north that affected the quality of education but none so disruptive as the ones at Lord Elgin. Even when 85 per cent of Halton teachers voted against spreading this permissive style of education the Board went ahead with its plans.

Renaissance has proven it is beyond coincidence that the administrative council is dominated by the Burlington group. We know there are capable people from Acton, Georgetown, Esquesing, Milton and Oakville. To regain some equilibrium to our system, equal representation from all areas must be implemented immediately.

H.R.C. has proven that there is something very wrong with the Lord Elgin experiment that is infiltrating our system.

According to a documented OSSTF student survey, students prove our suspicions that permissiveness is the rule of thumb at Lord Elgin. Even teachers and the principal at Lord Elgin said their work load is far lighter than at traditional schools—and we pay our taxes for this?

We have been told that Lord Elgin's marks are inflated, thus making their university status very dicey. The ad-



Foolery with flowers

COMBINED EFFORTS of Free Press darkroom technician Wendy Thomson and Clark Wallace produced this black and white bouquet from a handful of ordinary barnyard wildflowers, grasses and weeds.



Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley

Herewith Smiley's bi-annual Summer Safety Hints. Various departments of government: Agriculture, Lands and Forests, Tourism and Tripe, Fire and Water — annually send out a list of things to do to protect your life and various other things during the hot season.

It is my opinion that these lists are not only repetitious and redundant, but overlapping and underpinning, so once in a while I try to publish a few Summer Safety Tips that can be used as filler by all lazy, hot, tired editors.

Even though the summer is half over, and thousands of people have drowned, or nearly drowned, I think a few swimming suggestions would not come amiss.

Never forget that amiss is as good as amile, make sure you don't go amiss. I think that requires no further explanation.

Now for diving. Never dive into unknown waters. Many a man you'll meet on the streets, whimpering, limping, middle-

ministration believes differently. But the principals of secondary schools in Halton know better.

H.R.C. has proven that many people have been promoted from Lord Elgin in a short period of time where other personnel from other schools have not the same pleasure. We have named these people from Lord Elgin, so the Board will not be confused as to who they are. All this spreading of a philosophy when an evaluation of the Lord Elgin experiment has not been done is insane.

H.R.C. has proven that there are serious problems at Acton High where Mr. Katz is the principal. Names, facts and figures were given in abundance to the Board to make it evident we do know what's going on at Acton. Mr. Katz is now going to be principal of the new experiment at Lester B. Pearson High School. We wonder why??

We demand that senior positions be advertised outside the Board as other Boards of Education practise.

Mr. Lavender received the Directorship with no advertising of the position at all. Mr. Keith Craig received his assistant to the Director position within a very short period of time and with no outside advertising.

The board suggests they hire the best person for the position, but interpretation of who is the best person is the key word. Biases and prejudices could be inherent in who is doing the hiring. The selection committee is made up of three ad-

aged, head-scarred. Ask him what the matter is, and he'll respond: "I dived into unknown waters." This is his euphemism for admitting he is married.

Try not to dive into a swimming pool. Use a diving pool. If you do happen to dive into a swimming pool, and it has a plastic bottom, wear a plastic helmet. If it happens to have a concrete bottom, and you are turkey enough to dive into it, you probably won't feel a thing.

Never dive alone. Personally, when I dive, whether it is from 30 feet, 12 feet 4 feet or even my accustomed 18 inches, I am always accompanied by water wings, an inflated tube, and my entire family. It may not be Olympic grace and style, but I don't have a hole in my head from hitting rocks.

Never take a person out over his or her depth. In other words, if your mother-in-law is only five feet tall and can't swim, don't take her out to where it is six feet deep. Just take her out where it is five feet

deep, hand her some lead weights, and tell her to do push-ups.

Enough about swimming. How about boating? Well, the same principles apply there. Never put more than 12 people in a 12 foot boat, six people in a six foot boat, or more than 88 people in a bar that is built for 44. This way you can not only be safe but sorry.

If it is a sailboat, do not load it up with sailors. Sailors are usually drunk and disorderly, according to the police records of all the ports of the world. The same, by the way, goes for soldiers, if you happen to have a soldier-boat.

If you have a power boat, of course, this is your chance to show the world. Take any average swimmer, and a pair of water skis. Throw both over the back of the boat. The order doesn't matter. Shove the throttle wide open. Then show everybody what Napoleon would have been like without Waterloo.

Water on the brain? Let's turn to other aspects of summer danger.

Do not stamp out bonfires with your bare feet. In the first place, those coals are probably just fireflies going through their second incarnation, and have just as much right to live as you have.

Secondly, the smell of roasting meat is liable to bring dozens of barbecue artists from all over the neighborhood down on you, asking what kind of sauce you use.

Another thing you should not stamp out with your bare foot is your flowerbed, even though it thaws out you, thumbs its nose at you and sticks its bare roots in the air at you, as mine recently did. There were two rose bushes among them, in mine.

Then, of course, there are bugs. Don't spray them. Don't swat them. They, too, are merely lower forms of consciousness, trying to rise to a higher, in their next incarnation.

I had a Buddhist monk flying around me the other night, whining: "Don't hit me! Don't hit me! I was once an altar boy for St. Thomas Aquinas."

Splatt! Is he going to be surprised when he is re-incarnated as an Anglican bishop. Female.

Betty Fisher
Communications Co-ordinator
Halton Renaissance.

The Free Press Back Issues

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press August 4, 1955

Their four children and seven grandchildren will be present when Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Hinton celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Sunday. Two sons are coming from as far as New York and Regina.

While Mrs. Harold Townsley was sitting in the living room of her Cameron St. home today at noon, a bolt of lightning struck the building, sizzled along wires and caused a fire in her television set. A neighbor, Charlie Waterhouse, came to her assistance and put out the blaze.

Two former Acton residents who hadn't seen each other for 27 years met in the parlor car of a train recently. Jim McGeechie who lives in Toronto now, was living in Chicago when he encountered Joe McCann on the train. Mr. McCann, the son of a coal yard owner in Acton, was on his way from Vancouver.

Mrs. Amy Walker and sons Garry and Brian, are spending their vacation at Kirkland Lake. They were accompanied by Mrs. Kay Sullivan of Guelph.

This week, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Watson and their children motored to Baltimore. The two boys stayed for a visit and will be returning home by themselves by plane later on.

Mrs. S. Braida and Mr. and Mrs. Don Timmings attended the Frail-Braida wedding in Bracebridge on Thursday.

50 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press July, 1925

Last Thursday evening Acton Citizens' Band went to Milton to put on a programme at the Milton Band's regular band concert in Victoria Park. The park was crowded with an audience to hear the concert and see the Burlington Fire Brigade put on their fancy drill.

Mr. and Mrs. Harley Brignall left on Thursday for the Pacific coast. They will visit with friends at Vancouver, Victoria and Cranbrook. Master Douglas is staying with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. James H. Reid.

Miss Margaret Murray, of Edinburgh, Scotland, arrived in town on Tuesday to spend a month or two with her brother, Mr. George Murray and Mrs. Murray.

Mrs. Fred McDowell and little daughters Hazel and Evelyn returned from a two weeks' visit with friends in Blyth, Goderich and Clinton.

Miss Ruth Nelson, missionary teacher, who was appointed a month ago to Victoria, B. C., has now been transferred to Copper Cliff, Ontario, where she will engage in work in the missionary school of the United Church of Canada. Miss Nelson left for her new field last Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Dobie and son have been spending a couple of weeks' holidays at Wingham. Mr. Dobie and his brother camped along Lake Nipissing, where they had some real good fishing.

75 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press August 2, 1900

A tennis match with a team from Guelph Tennis Club was arranged to be played on the courts in the park here on Tuesday afternoon. The Guelph players defaulted, however and the game did not come off. A match with Elora is on the tapis for the near future. Acton Tennis Club has two excellent courts now.

"I think it would be a good plan to send Willie up into the country to be with his father in their home in Toronto the other day. 'He's never been on a farm, and it would be rather a novel experience for him.' 'No, you don't," interrupted Willie. "I've heard all about the country, and I'm not going anywhere where they have threshing machines. It's bad enough when it's done by hand."

Last Saturday afternoon the Acton junior baseball club, the Beavers, journeyed to Hillsburgh to have a game with the juniors of that place. The match was called at about four o'clock and before the commencement it was decided to play only five innings, and at the end of that time the score stood 9 to 17 in favor of the Beavers. The playing was creditable to both teams and the Acton team proved themselves to be worthy opponents.

During the thunderstorm on Sunday evening the fine barn of Mr. N. F. Lindsay, east of town, was struck by lightning. Very slight damage was sustained. The lightning struck on the roof, shattered the ridgepole, tore off a few boards of siding and then ran down the eaves-trough and conductor pipe into the easter. Lightning rods are fitted on the barn and the copper connection of one of these was melted. Mr. Lindsay feels very grateful that the damages were so slight.

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