# Free Press / Editorial Page

### Hallowe'en on Saturday

Decision to have Hallowe'en traditional festivities on Saturday night instead of Sunday—the right date-is a good one. Halton Hills council has made the decision, which was being considered by members of the local Y's Men's club who are again closely involved with the day.

Saturday will give the costumed characters lots of time to prepare. They can be out good and early and back home again ditto - we hope.

Acton has had a happy group of youngsters out each Hallowe'en, with little foolishness or vandalism in recent years.

Although vandalism appears to be a growing concern we trust the local people will again show their good sense.

The Y's Men are sponsoring a Swimathon on the Saturday, with proceeds for UNICEF, and box collections are so far set for the Saturday as well.

### We will help again

The nations of the world spend an estimated \$200,000 million a year for military purposes. By contrast, UNICEF has about \$81 million for supporting the build-up of basic services benefiting infants and children in 112 countries (estimated child population: 860 million.) An additional \$14.4 million is also used for relief and rehabilitation.

About 70 per cent of UNICEF's long-term aid goes to equip health centres; provide piping and pumps for village wells; help production of food for the family; and provide, textbooks and teaching aids for schools. This assistance directly benefits millions of infants and children. Nearly 30 per cent goes to support the training of national staff-nurses, midwives, health and nutrition field workers, primary

school teachers and supervisors, family-child welfare and day-care workers-needed to run these services.

At every stage, UNICEF and the countries assisted are partners in aid. Each government sets its priorities. However, these are based on a joint survey with UNICEF of the actual needs of children in the country. Most governments invest many times over what UNICEF provides, and many build into their national development plans services for children.

Acton people have been helping UNICEF in their own small way for many years now. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wilson and now their son-in-law Ed Leatherland have spearheaded the collections each year, in a very worthwhile effort.





CATTLE GRAZE contentedly in a picturesque pasture in Erin township, just north of Acton. They

are oblivious to the wind blowing the trees and grass, and the darkening clouds.



There are quite a few big black birds floating around these days. Or had you

No they are not black geese on their way south. They are vultures. They may not look like it. They may more closely resemble political pundits, media manipulators, or triumphant Tories. But they are vultures.

They are scrawny and hungry as they circle impatiently, walting for the moribund body to fall down and become a carcass on which they can fatten.

That staggering corpus on which their beady little eyes are fixed is the Liberal Party, which composes the government of this fair land at the moment.

A Gallup or some other poll revealed recently that the Liberals would receive only 29 per cent of the vote, should an election be held when the poll was taken.

Add to that the increasingly virulent tone of the media toward the prime minister, and a gaggle of fairly minor scandals involving prominent Liberals, and it would appear that the vultures will soon be gorging themselves.

There certainly is a faint stench arising from the Liberal party these days. But it is not the stench of death. It is more like the odour of a body that needs both a strong purgative and a good, hot bath.

I don't pretend to be a political seer. Nor do I owe any political prognostications to any political affiliation. In short, I don't give a diddle for any of them.

But it doesn't require more than a modicum of common sense to realize that the Liberal party is far from being on its last legs. Anyone who thinks otherwise is

not found, an extension could be granted for

a one year period-after approval by the

Environmental Hearing Board. What effect

First, huge tracts of land 200-800 acres

would not be needed. Secondly, existing

dumps would be kept in exemplary condi-

tion. If they were not this would adversely

affect any hearings if an extension was

getting on with building Recycling and

I have advocated such legislation being

introduced by the Opposition in the next

legislature, and I will be discussing this

matter with Stephen Lewis in the very near

future. Such legislation would undoubtably

have much support from Conservationists,

Environmentalists, and Farm Organiza-

tions, and groups threatened with becoming

the recipients of garbage from Toronto and

They have much ammunition. They

could, through their elected representa-

tives Councillors, Federation of Agricul-

ture, etc., demand a full disclosure of the

findings at Site "A". (This report was

shelved without any proper disclosure).

They must follow every candidate running

for regional and town office from candi-

dates meeting to candidates meeting

asking questions about their stand on the

solid waste issue, and long term garbage

dumping. They must also bombard the

Editors of every newspaper in Halton with

letters. Although they have written letters

to the Minister of the Environment and the

Premier they must continue this letter

writing campaign, for it must be remem-

bered that when Brampton's garbage was

to be dumped in a gravel pit in the Heart

Lake Rd. area (Bill Davis' area) he per-

sonally intervened and stopped this dump

even though many members of Council and

others had approved it. The people of Site

'F' should endeavour to get the whole

subject of solid waste as a topic on radio

and T.V. open line talk shows. (I have

participated in such shows and they are

untruths. These must be contested and pub-

William A. Johnson.

What can the people of Site 'F' do?

Third, it would move Queen's Park into

would this have?

applied for.

Reclamation Plants.

other urban areas.

indulging in wishful fantasies or a form of self-hypnosis. That includes the political vultures. I think they are going to go right on being scrawny and hungry.

Remember, you read it here first. The Liberals may have absorbed a few stiff punches in the solar plexus, but they are a long way from going to the mat and being counted ou!

Why? Use your head, man, or lady. Forget about the polls and the press. Nobody ever won an election with either, or both. People, not polls, elect governments. · And people are the most unpredictable creatures in the universe. They don't base their votes on logic or reason. They base them on all kinds of crazy things.

They base them on emotions like greed and fear. They base them on glibness and charisma. They base them on such things as Margaret making an ass of herself on TV or Maureen having a hard time with her first baby.

In these days, when the tube is so vital in a politician's getting to the people, the latter base their votes, in many, many cases, on dazzle rather than dependability, on rhetoric rather than reliability.

A pity 'tis. 'Tis pity but 'tis true. When the crunch comes, whom are you going to vote for? Earnest, youthful Joe, with his jowls jumping like a junior John Dief.? Or suave, elegant Pierre of the Gallic shrug, the seemingly utterly reasonable approach, and the charm of a professional actor? Be honest, now.

Add to that a few other facts. Trudeau has the solid support of his party, if only because he has led it to two successful grabs at the gold ring. Clark was elected leader of the Tories by barely more than one half of the convention delegates.

Add again. Trudeau is a skilled and experienced politician. He has shown that he can be at the same time loyal to his henchman and ruthless when need be. Clark is comparatively untried in the political arena, is rapidly gaining skill, but hasn't had a chance to be either loyal or ruthless. He basn't dared.

Add some more. The government controls the purse strings. This means patronage and post offices and pension cheques. And don't tell me that's nineteenth century politics. It ai'nt. Look for some sudden benevolence by the government on the eve of election.

And again. Don't count too much on the prime minister's current unpopularity. Mackenzie King was one of the most cordially hated prime ministers we have ever had. He suddenly became very popular and won an election, when he introduced the baby bonus. See last paragraph.

Another fact. There are millions of diehard Liberals in this country. They'd vote Liberal if King Kong or Ibi Amin (not much to choose there) were running for prime minister. What do you think they will do in an election? Roll over and play dead?

Add to this that Quebec, despite its disillusion with its own Liberal government, will go at least ninety per cent Liberal. They may not love Trudeau, but when it comes to a choice between a guy named Pierre and a guy named Joe, there is no choice, among French Canadians.

Trudeau will get a licking in the West, but that is not where elections are won or lost.

While it may be on the ropes, cut and bleeding, the Liberal party is a long, long way from being carried out of the ring, feet

Here's my prediction. Pierre Trudeau will eat Joe Clark for breakfast. If he doesn't, I'll eat three copies of the High River Times for my breakfast.

### The Free Press Back Issues

#### 20 years ago

taken from the issue of the Free Press, Oct. 25, 1958

A new record of 9.26 minutes was set by Bruce Andrews in the mile and a half cross country chamionship race at Hamilton on Saturday. The former record of 9.53 was set by Kent Young of Hamilton Delta Collegiate. There were over 50 in the race. The young Acton runner added a gold medal to his growing collection of awards.

An 11-year-old Acton boy is scheduled to appear in juvenile court tomorrow in Milton, charged in connection with three fires which occurred at the Scout Hall in the space of two weeks.

At the annual meeting of the Acton Lawn Bowling Club held recently, the 1956 officers were re-elected for 1957. They are: W. H. Rogers, president; J. Wood, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. E. Holes, ladies president; Mrs. M. Bell, secretarytreasurer; Miss B. B. Wood, tournament secretary.

Miss Ruby Clark spent a few days in Buffalo with friends this week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Allan and Albert Ford motored to North Bay over the week-end. Miss K. MacDonald of Vancouver left on the weekend on her return trip home after visiting here with her sister, Mrs. Harry Mainprize, Mr. Mainprize and Mr. Bill Mainprize. Miss MacDonald and Mrs. Mainprize spent part of last week in Montreal with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Mainprize and their daughter Susan.

#### 50 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press Thursday, Oct. 14, 1926

The contractors are at work on the new offices and band stand at the park and will now push it forward to completion.

Mr. J. F. Roberts, Acton, did well with his sheep and swine exhibits at Erin Fair. He won first on Dorset sheep; first on Yorkshire hogs and first on best pair of

On Sunday afternoon a special harvest home service was held at Crewsons Corners. It was well attended with Rev. R. E. Zimmerman preaching the sermon. The choir of the United Church, Acton, was present and assisted in the service of praise. Miss Ruth Gibson sang a sacred solo with splendid effect.

The annual Field Day of the Acton High School and Public School was held in the Park last Wednesday afternoon, The weather was not the most suitable for the affair, but the scholars entered into the sports with a zest that overcame to some extent the deterrent of a chilly day.

A petition from the residents of the northwesterly end of Main Street from River Street to the C.N.R. tracks was presented to the council requesting that the roadway be continued 40 feet in width for the complete section of the road to the highway. The petition was supported by a deputation of the residents.

### 100 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, October, 19, 1878

The Halton County Agricultural Society appear to be generally fortunate in having fine weather for their show days, and no better could be desired than Thursday and Friday of last week. The second day was especially favorable for out-door exhibition, and it was taken advantage of by an immense throng of visitors. As for the show itself, however, it cannot, at least, be said to have been any improvement on that of last year. Indeed, in many respects there was a perceptible falling off; nevertheless, it was on the whole very creditable to the county, the large and remarkably fine show of horses being the principal redeeming feature. In this department, our county may truthfully be said to stand second to none in the province.

The annual exhibition of the Erin Agricultural Society was held on the Society's grounds at Erin Village, on Tuesday. The day being very fine, there was a very large turnout of people, estimated to be from 2,500 to 3,000. In every respect, the show may be said to have been a perfect success, with the exception, probably, of the small number of team horses exhibited. There were a good many fine looking colts and young horses, and a large number of superior cattle and sheep In roots, grain, and dairy produce, the show far excelled any other we have seen this year, and in ladies' work and the fine arts there was an excellent display. Indeed Erin's reputation for its superior exhibitions was fully sustained. It is now definitely known that the Local

Legislature will not meet till the first week in January.

### THE ACTON FREE PRESS

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### Is 1.6% a majority?

I wonder if you could give me a little help with a puzzling question. You see, my teacher gave me this problem:

"A man asked 60,000 people for their opinion on a matter of public interest (1 think it was about education!), less than 1000 citizens responded to his questionnaire. What would be the maximum percentage of people who may have expressed agreement with his viewpoint?"

Now, it doesn't seem to matter whether I use new maths, middle-age maths, or just plain old arithmetic-I keep on getting the same answer and that is 1.6 per cent. The teacher and I both agreed on this figure (and so do most other people I know), but every time I look in your paper there is a man (I think his name is Campbell) who

"printers" devil?

Yours truly,

Acton.

### Route decision mistake

The Editor Dear Sir:

The recent lengthy and condescending reply by Ontario Hydro to the fears of two farm wives, Theresa Manion and Patricia Wilson, for their families' safety near high voltage transmission lines is infuriating.

I am one of the hundreds of farmers whose farms would be crossed "kittycorner" by Hydro's proposed 500,000-volt transmission line from the Bruce nuclear station on Lake Huron to Milton near Toronto. About 48 miles of the route would consist of diagonal crossings of farmland.

Ontario Hydro has set up a slick and elaborate demonstration at Essa, near Barrie, complete with lunch and smiling public relations men, to show the people how the admitted shock hazards of living and working near these lines can be lessened.

The demonstration shows, says Hydro, the "worst that could happen". It could be effective because Hydro, with disarming candor, invites the public to experience the jarring shocks available under its only other 500,000-volt line.

None of this expensive nonsense would be necessary if Hydro followed its own stated policy of running high-voltage corridors along property lines to "minimize" their impact on people. Very few homes and buildings are situated close to the property

Hydro has consistently refused to guarantee in writing that a child (not properly briefed on the precautions) could not be killed by touching an ungrounded tractor or farm implement parked beneath one of these extra-high-voltage transmission lines.

Why not? Without a guarantee like this Hydro's Essa or any other public persuasion campaign is obviously a sham. Whether the child's daddy should or shouldn't have left the ungrounded machinery under the lines doesn't really matter. Hydro doesn't deny that a fatal fire or keeps saving that 1.6 per cent is a majority.

Please tell me: is this because he doesn't understand arithmetic, did he never learn his grammar or is it all just the work of a

Eric Balkind, 20 Knox Ave.,

### explosion could occur during refuelling under their proposed high-voltage line. It

only recommends involved procedures to prevent it.

Why should a farmer, whose other problems these days have been well publicized, have to stop and consider his every move and those of his family when working or living under these lines? He wouldn't need to if Hydro would concede that its route decision, made five years ago with no input from affected people, was a serious mis-

because of the intolerable diagonal crossings of farmland and second, because no independent study was ever carried out to determine if this route is indeed the cheapest one with the least agricultural impact. An independent study has been refused us by Hydro. We say that no one, including the Davis

It was a mistake for two reasons. First

government which controls Hydro, should have the right to trample on the basic human rights of farmers affected by its expropriation privileges.

We will never give in to this sort of muscle-flexing by Hydro, nor will we be impressed by their phony attempts to show their concern for us, including the "safety" demonstration at Essa.

Yours truly James C. Dunlop R.R. 2, Conn.

## Thanks 'Wicked Willie'

Dear Sir:

I have been reading with great interest all the letters about Halton Region's garbage and in particular, Site F. It seems all of a sudden everyone is an expert. No one has said anything about solid waste or any of the proposed sites, or recycling that Bill "Wicked Willy" Johnson hasn't been telling us for years.

enjoy this weekend.

### Continue dump fight filling of garbage in a particular area were

READERS

OUR

For too many years I have been writing and lecturing up and down this Province about solid waste. It all started here in Halton, and it was in Halton that I came to the conclusion that if you are to change attitudes towards polluting land and water, you have no choice but to change things at Queen's Park. Where ever I have debated garbage dumping, Ministry of the Environment officials have expounded so-called sanitary landfilling and its blessings, even worse, they have endorsed long term land-

Here in Halton Region, it seems Works Committee Chairman Jack Raftis is dedicated to turning the prime agricultural land in the Tremaine-Britannia area into the waste lands of Sudbury which he left for greener pastures here in Halton.

What about our local municipal and regional representatives in this matter? Some have been outstanding, others less than responsible, and much of the trouble can be blamed on regionalism. Few urban councillors are concerned about solid waste as long as it doesn't get dumped in their area. What about rural councillors? First of all, they are outvoted by urban majoritles, and can you really blame a councillor from Halton Hills supporting a motion to put garbage in the Town of Milton? If he or she votes against Site 'F' the second choice could be Ashgrove, and then he or she is really in trouble.

What about our representative at Queen's Park? What hasn't he done that he could and should have done? As a successful candidate for the area

what would I have done?

(1) I would have introduced a Private Members Bill banning long term landfilling of solid waste for a period of over five years. This five year period would commence from the date the site was authorized by the Environmental Hearing

Board. If for some reason alternatives to land-

#### I also think a thank you is in order to Bill Johnson and the 854 Committee which petitioned and made representation to council, which presented an irrefutable case to Bell Canada and helped us get the

Thank you Belly Stone (Mrs.)

very successful in getting the message across, especially to the urbanites.) · As an individual I shall continue to oppose the stupidity of long term landfilling, and any landfilling on prime farm land or in extended service we will begin to use and areas that threaten water courses. There have been points of contention raised at Regional meetings, and some downright

R.R. 2, Rockwood.