

Our readers write

Rights in Ireland

Acton Free Press
Dear Editor:

March 31, 1978

This is in answer to Mr. George Graham's letter of March 29. He says Ian Paisley came to Toronto to stir up strife between Protestants and Catholics. He forgets to mention what the I.R.A. is doing in Ireland.

Now regarding that woman, whom he says spoke over the radio and was asked

what she wanted done with the million Protestants in Ulster. She said and I quote "Let them get out" end of quote.

My great-great-grandparents, my great-grandparents, and my grandparents all lived in Ireland and I still have relatives there.

No woman of whatever religion can tell me that my relatives should get out of Ireland. They have just as much right there as anyone else. "A Protestant"

Ireland good to visit

Box 125, Tara
April 2, 1978

Dear Editor:

It was pretty amusing to see my letter defending Irish culture, (albeit deleted somewhat at your discretion) and then go on to read George Graham's, directly below, beginning "There was no notice taken of St. Patrick's day except what appeared in your paper and some of it did not show much patriotism for the land of their birth."

If Mr. Graham is referring to the letters to the editor's letter column of March 15th issue of the Free Press, surely he is not pointing his finger at Jean Whiting's charming and happy little story, or the poem by Helen Steiner Rice sent by Elizabeth O'Rourke, or the recollections of his good wife Catherine about her memories of Mourne. So, by the simple process of elimination, I guess I'm elected!

I thought that the poem I wrote was pretty well true to the situation in North Ireland and expressed the hope for peace in that lovely land. Certainly the country should be one entity, but the endless bloodshed on both sides doesn't give too much hope for that happy realization.

That big British boot has been in the six counties that comprise Ulster for over three hundred years, and anyone who has read Trinity by Leon Uris could not help but feel completely devastated after reading its sad history.

To the best of my recollection, Mr. Graham has been in Canada since 1926, my family arrived here in 1924, and I am sure he has enjoyed the benefits and complete freedom, as we did, than if we had stayed there. During those over fifty years of occupancy, Mr. Graham has worked, raised his family in peace and prosperity,

as did we.

Of course no one denies the emotional tie that binds one to the land of one's birth!

I am sure that, as Canada, except for the native-born Indians, a race of immigrants, has both gained from and given to her many colonists, whether they are Irish, Scotch, Chinese, Dutch, German, Italians etc. all of whom she welcomed into her vast domain.

What a great bunch of hypocrites we would be if we did not feel the greatest allegiance to the new land that has treated us so graciously.

I wouldn't donate one nickel, however, to any terrorist organization of whatever so-called religious persuasion, to help murder the innocents, whether it is in N. Ireland, Palestine, Africa, or anywhere else in our poor troubled world.

Question: how come the most enthusiastic "patriots" leave their native lands, and then vehemently protest the inequities "back home" while enjoying the comforts and benefits of their adopted land?

Sorry Mr. Graham, Ireland is a beautiful place to visit, as you did, but admit it, you came back to Canada, now didn't you? Anyway, I notice your address is still R.R. 1, Limehouse, so it is evident that you must love Canada too.

Anyway, dear editor, as this will be my final letter to your paper, I would like to thank the Free Press for all the letters of mine you so kindly included in your column throughout the years.

I can only recall one occasion when a letter of mine was rejected, so I feel I have been very well treated by your paper.

I will still continue to read, with great interest your readers' news and views concerning Acton and district.

Goodbye, and thank you
Sheila O'Rourke

Legal aid available for Halton residents

The Halton Hills Community Legal Clinic has been open for five months, offering legal services to those who feel they cannot afford legal aid any other way.

The role of the community legal clinic involves an ongoing relationship covering information, general advice, referrals, education, preventive advice and assistance, as well as crisis intervention as required.

It is designed to complement both the Ontario Legal Aid Plan, (OLAP) and the private bar by providing socio-legal services not traditionally dealt with by them. Those with low incomes need legal counsellors, who they feel are personally

committed to their vital interests as they see them. It may be that the clinic would not handle a particular problem from beginning to end, but would know where to refer the client.

The OLAP has two distinct branches: the individual certificate program and the community clinic program which are designed to complement each other in the efficient delivery of legal services. The OLAP is funded by the government and administered by the Law Society of Upper Canada. In both branches a client's financial position must be taken into consideration and an assessment is done.

Community Legal Worker Peggie Balkind admitted

there is no set "low income". She pointed out that the office takes a person's income, and subtracts their debts, to arrive at a true income of the family.

Mrs. Balkind said many people are not aware of their rights, and if they are, do not know where to turn to exercise those rights. The clinic tells them of their rights and puts them on to the proper organization.

Response to the clinic in both Acton and Georgetown has been slow. Mrs. Balkind surmises this could be because they are a new organization, not able to advertise. As a result, a lot of people do not know the clinic even exists.

The legal worker says she would not feel badly if she did not know there were people with problems. "If I did not feel there were any problems, I wouldn't worry," Mrs. Balkind said. "However, I know there are problems out there." She feels with the number of people on unemployment, workmen's compensation, etc., many people are probably having a difficult time straightening things out.

Other areas of involvement for the clinic are family, domestic, (divorce and annulment, separation, maintenance, custody, wardship, adoption, family property, deserted wife, etc.), administrative, (welfare, workmen's compensation and UIC, pension), housing, (landlord tenant), employment, (labor relations, creditor, consumer protection, pension, holiday pay, wage claims and small business problems), quasi-criminal (traffic offences, by-law violations) and miscellaneous (citizenship, immigration, medical, human rights, civil wrongs, recreation and change of name.)

In Halton region, the legal aid office in Oakville deals with the granting of the legal aid certificate. The applicant then takes the certificate to the lawyer of his or her choice who will handle the case as he or she would anyone else's and be paid 75 per cent of the allowed legal aid fees with the other 25 per cent being considered a donation to the OLAP. There are fairly flexible guidelines for determining what a certificate will be given for. The legal aid office is also responsible for the duty counsel process in the family and criminal courts. The fact that this office and most government offices are a considerable distance from



HALTON HILLS LEGAL Aid Clinic is located in the Acton Y. Peggie Balkind, a community legal worker, is always just a phone call away. She can be reached at 853-2400 or 877-0711.

Public meeting

A public meeting will be held to discuss the proposed funeral home on the Seventh Line, next to Halton Hills administration building. Planning board recommended approval this week.

The two acre parcel of land on the Seventh Line, (Trafalgar Road), will have 33 parking spaces and an 8,200 square foot building, owned by McClure-Jones Funeral home, who plan to move their operation from Edith Street in Georgetown.

On the recommendation of the engineering department, one access, next to the town building and works yard, was eliminated and only one access on the south side allowed.

The report pointed out the area has become an industrial and institutional node, with a truck depot to the east the town works yard and offices to the north. It also pointed out municipal water is available.

NOW! Wrangler can shoe you

FOR MEN, WOMEN, BOYS & GIRLS

Wrangler SHOES FOR JEANS

MADE IN CANADA / FABRIQUE AU CANADA

\$29.99

PLAN TO DROP IN AND SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTRE AND YMCA

Swetman's SHOES

19 Mill St. E. 853-0360

Sales project

Fertilizer sales raised \$800 for the Trinity Activity Group of the United Church. Orders were taken in advance and picked up Saturday at the Free Press building. Organizers were very pleased with the response to their fund-raising project.

We Stock and Order
McCALL STYLE SIMPLICITY PATTERNS
HINTON'S
5c to \$1.00 STORE

The Village Pine Shoppe
75 Mill Street East, Acton
FEATURING...
TEAS... choose from our vast selection
Just Arrived - All Purpose CARDS
Distinctive Hand Crafted PINE FURNITURE Small PINE ACCESSORIES
STAINED GLASS ITEMS
"Drop In For A Visit"
853-3450

Bellar
in THE OLD BANK
Corner of Mill and Main Streets
"FAMILY NIGHT"
To-nite Wednesday, April 5th
Come Join Us For
Roast Prime Rib of Beef
• Appetizer • Dessert • Complete Dinner
\$6.55 per person
"COZY DINNER AND DANCING" BY THE FIRESIDE
• Dinner starts 5:30 p.m.
• Reservations 453-8078 COLLECT
SEE YOU AT "IT'S SPRING" Family Fashion Show
Tuesday, April 11 • 7:30 p.m.
Tues.-Sat. 12 noon - 2:30 Luncheon Starting 5:30 Dinner
Your Host Gabe Sara

Thanks for OFSAA tourney

The Editor,
Acton Free Press,
Acton.

Dear Sir:

All-Ontario High School basketball finals were held March 16-18 in the impressive and well-equipped Acton High School.

On behalf of the Titan basketball team from Central Elgin Collegiate Institute, St. Thomas, I would appreciate space in your newspaper to express our gratitude to all concerned, who provided such an excellent tournament.

All the organizers and other helpers are to be commended for an extremely well-coordinated and successful sporting event. The hospitality, friendliness and goodwill

which was shown to our team members and teachers was really outstanding. Everyone with whom we came in contact, while in Acton, helped in some way to ensure that we enjoyed our visit.

All the friendly people, the amicable reception we received and the general warm atmosphere throughout the three days, provided us with an event in our lives which will be memorable for many years.

Special thanks, however, are extended by all from C.E.C.I. to our two wonderful and charming hostesses, Diane and Patti.

Thank you, Acton,
Yours truly,
Chris Bowden.

High blood pressure month

Hi!
April 1978 has been declared "World High Blood Pressure Month" by the World Health Organization, in co-operation with the International Society and Federation of Cardiology. The theme for this international project is a fitting one—"Down With High Blood Pressure".

Nearly two million Canadians have high blood pressure, half of them don't know it and many of them will risk premature death and disability unless their blood pressure is reduced. Of those who know they have high blood pressure, only half have it treated and, of the latter, only a small percentage co-operate with their doctors in

the long-term control of their condition.

Our educational objectives for the month are to A: Alert the public to the fact that there are no symptoms which accompany High Blood Pressure—have your blood pressure checked to be sure. B: If you have high blood pressure treat it... and live. From your past co-operation, we know we can count on you to get these educational messages to the people of Ontario.

Thanking you in advance for your assistance, I remain,

Yours very truly,
ONTARIO HEART FOUNDATION
Esther M. Richards
Director of Public Relations

Project big success

Dear Mrs. Dills:

We would like to thank you for the use of your building during our recent fertilizer project.

Special mention to Mr. David Dills and Mr. Don McDonald for their co-operation and assistance.

To our customers and to all those who helped in any way to make this project a big success, a very sincere thank you.

Dorothy Rognvaldson, President,
Trinity Activity Group,
Trinity United Church,
Acton.

HALTON PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

Nomination Meeting

April 6th — 8:00 p.m.

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE EXPANDED QUARTERS AT BLAKELOCK HIGH SCHOOL, REBECCA STREET, OAKVILLE AS ORIGINALLY ADVERTISED

REGISTRATION DESKS OPEN AT 6:30 P.M.

Please **RED** Help!

CROSS

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

RED THURSDAY

APRIL 13

at the
Acton Legion Auditorium

1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

FOR TRANSPORTATION PHONE 853-1868 or 853-0910

BABY SITTING AVAILABLE