

Free Press Editorial Page

First Aid advice

A little knowledge, far from being a dangerous thing, can save a life in an emergency. St. John Ambulance has advice on First Aid to use when someone's life is threatened, and fast action could save it.

For instance, if someone stops breathing because they've nearly drowned, have choked, or had a heart attack or a shock, artificial respiration applied right away might mean the difference between life and death. To apply mouth to mouth resuscitation, you make sure the victim's mouth and throat are free of obstruction. Put your hand under the victim's neck and lift it to tilt the head back, close the nostrils, then blow into the victim's mouth about every five seconds. You should also loosen tight clothing and keep the victim warm.

If someone who has stopped breathing has head or neck injuries, you can't use the mouth to mouth method, but there are other First Aid techniques you could learn for those situations.

Quick action might also save the life of someone who is bleeding severely. Get pressure directly on the wound, with a clean dressing preferably, but with your hand if that's fastest. Raise the wounded arm or leg or head above heart level and get the victim to medical help as fast as you can.

If someone suffers a fracture, immobilize it before you try to move the victim. Use a magazine, an oar, an umbrella, or if it's a leg that's broken use the uninjured leg

as a splint. Use plenty of bandages.

Treat sunburn like a minor burn. First get victim into a shaded area. If he complains of pain, gently apply a cloth dipped in cool water. Do not break blisters. For a severe burn or a large minor burn, including severe sunburn, cover the area with a clean dressing and get medical help.

Obviously, in any of these situations, you'll get expert help as soon as possible. First Aid is intended to preserve life, to minimize the effects of an injury and prevent it from getting worse, and to relieve pain when that's possible. In situations in which life is not threatened, it's often useful to know what not to do. Don't move a victim unless it's necessary to get him out of danger, keep him warm, provide reassurance and get help.

If you're calling an ambulance or police to the scene of an accident, be able to tell them the exact location of the accident, the number of people injured with some brief, simple information on the type of injuries involved. If there are special circumstances, let them know.

Keep your car, your cottage, your boat, your camp equipped with a good First Aid Kit containing plenty of bandages, adhesive strips and some pressure dressings.

Anyone interested in learning more at St. John courses could contact George and Marie Hargrave or Blair Beemer.

Investigate complaints

Is the recent report on conditions of the Halton Regional Police Association a reflection of real conditions which exist or just grumblings from a few malcontents who would never be satisfied?

In the past the Halton Police Commission has maintained complaints from the association have been representative of only a small minority of officers. However, this report had submissions from over 90 officers and superintendents of the 264 member force and a unanimous vote from 125 association members. There has to be some substance to complaints of problems within the force.

Several of the complaints were the usual frustrations experienced by employees with management and could be resolved by more judicious application of common

sense. Others are more serious and the commission should not, as in the past, just wave them away as inconsequential.

The Police Commission is proud that Halton spends less per capita than any other regional police force but if it means the force is suffering from inadequate equipment, buildings and morale than something should be done—and soon. Only the officers themselves know the real conditions that exist and they are qualified to commend on conditions within the force.

The Police Commission would be doing everyone a favor if they treated the report seriously and with resolve to solve the grievances of officers without jeopardizing further relations between constables and their superiors or losing control of the situation.

—The Georgetown Independent

Grants to write books

Sometimes when listening to after-dinner speeches we think we should pay them to stop talking instead of starting. So also with writing books. It seems that Canada always has to do one better than the United States in spending money.

They let their politicians get into jail, or manage to stay out, write a book, go on a lecture tour and make a million.

But in Canada we do one better. Instead of having our politicians get into jail and write a book, we provide a large government grant for them to write their autobiographies. Perhaps we are bribing them to be good.

Former NDP leader David Lewis has had four Canada Council grants in four years, the total being \$123,899. We have not seen that book yet. We have read John Diefenbaker's Memoirs, for research of which he got \$172,979.

These funds come out of Canada Council grants. Often these are given to writers, actors, or artists whose potential merit is recommended by responsible groups. This is good.

There have been cases where grants have been given to groups whose cause seems less worthy. This should be investigated. The entire grant system for the arts, through Canada Council and other agencies, needs a good bit of careful research by both the federal and

provincial governments.
—Ridgetown Dominion

OUR READERS WRITE:

Honesty is best

I would like to express my sincere thanks to that very special person who ran over and killed my dog yet did not stop.

It happened on Thursday night, July 6 at 11 o'clock just outside Acton on Highway Seven.

If people would be more honest about such things, this would be a much nicer world to live. Honesty is the best policy.

Yours truly
Craig Gordon
R.R. 2, Acton, Ont.

Thoughtless

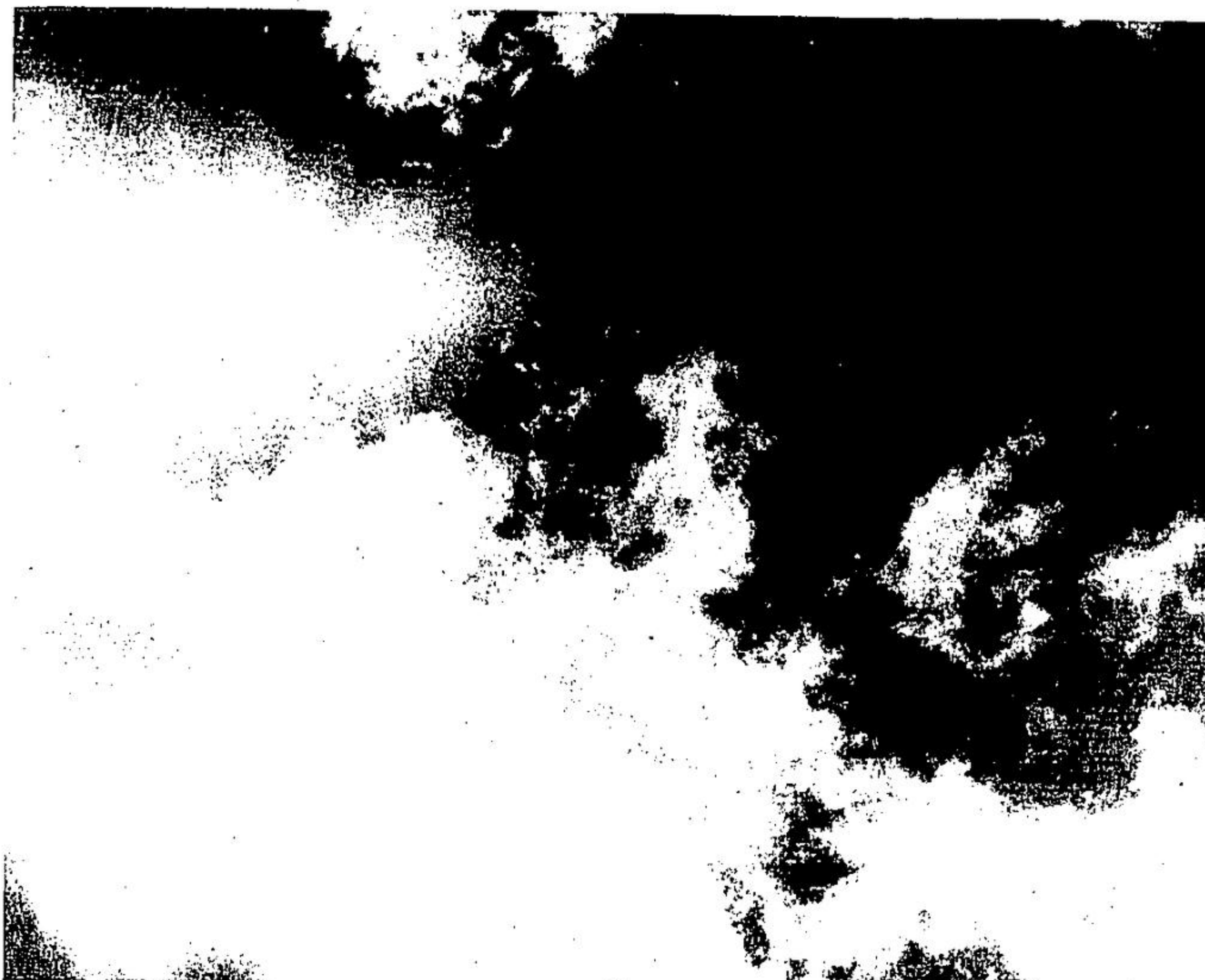
Dear Editor:

I am a person who likes to take good care of my car. On Saturday July 11 I decided to go downtown to join in on "Back to Acton Days" and just enjoy myself.

Some thoughtless person, they know who they are, took their fingernails or a comb and put 3 big scratches from the back end to the front end of my car. If this is the kind of thing that happens when you park downtown then parents should teach their children to be more concerned about other people's property.

I hope this person who did this is satisfied and realizes the expense to the owner of the vehicle. I hope that you can print this letter because I feel that this kind of thing occurs quite frequently and I'm sure a lot of people have experienced the anger & frustration this causes.

Yours sincerely
A Concerned Citizen



Sun and clouds combined beautifully yesterday



Sugar and spice by Bill Smiley

Canadians, on the whole are probably the most boring conversationalists in the world. I don't say that idly, merely to put backs up. I say it from agonizing personal experience.

It's not because we are a dull people, though we are. It's not because we're stupid, because we aren't. It seems to be based rather on a sort of philistinism that labels interesting conversation as a "cissy" pastime, fit only for dilettantes, idealists, Englishmen of a certain background, educated Europeans and other such intellectual trash.

Next time you're at a dinner party or any similar gathering, lend an ear. The dialogue will depress you deeply.

Perhaps the real fault lies in the fact that we are basically a nation of materialists, and that we have become more and more so, with the withering of the churches and the increasing affluence of our society.

Our topics of conversation change with decades, but remain awesomely inane in their content.

A few decades ago, men could talk for hours about cars and hockey, while women chattered incessantly about children and recipes.

Nowadays, the men talk about real estate and boats, and women go on and on about Women's Lib and the trip abroad

they have just taken or just about to take. And they all say the same thing, or near enough.

All of them, especially the men, are absorbed by their vocations, the sadistic cruelty of the revenue department, and their latest acquisition, whether it's a power cruiser or a swimming pool in the back yard.

Get a galle of editors together and they talk shop, golf, and how much advertising lineage they carried last year. Seldom a word about a powerful editorial campaign they are going to launch to halt an evil or promote a good.

Dig up a deliberation of doctors, put a glass in each hand and listen to the drivel about the inequities of medicare, the ingratitude of patients, the penal taxes they pay, and the condominium they just bought down south. Not a Best nor a Banting in the bunch.

Lawyers are just as bad. They may be a bit more sophisticated than the doctors, but they're just as dull. Dropping hints of inside dope on politics. Obsessed by the possibility of getting a judgeship or at the very least, a Q.C. Criers of the blues about the taxes they pay.

A party of politicians is even worse. Justing for attention, backslapping everything that is warm and breathing, needling the enemy, seeing everything in black and

white. "They're black; we're white." Joe Clark likes westerns on TV. It figures. The big shoot-out, and let the bodies of bystanders fall where they may.

Behind the politicians, but not far, are the civil servants Empire builders, defenders of the status quo. Everything in quadruplicate. Everything secret. The public is the enemy. Always go through channels. Keep your nose clean. Don't get a black mark on your record. Dull, dull.

Ah, ha! The farmers have been sitting back enjoying this. They're every bit as bad as the rest. It's the government's fault. It's the chain stores' greed. It's the field public. It's the weather: too wet; or, if the weather is perfect and the crops are superb, it's taking too much out of the land.

Business men are just as culpable of devastating dullness in their conversation. Too many forms to fill out. Lazy clerks. Second rate workmen. Those damn shopping plazas on the edge of town.

Manufacturers are in the same boat. Wages are too high. Can't get parts, what's the matter with those people? Too much absenteeism on Monday morning. Profit down .03 per cent last year. Can't compete with those lousy foreigners who work for peanuts. Too much government interference.

Dentists ditto. They are just as dull as the others, but they commit the crime of asking a particularly dull question when your mouth is so full of junk that all you can do is grunt, and then think you are interested and agreeing with their platitudes, when what you trying to say is, "Shut up, turkey."

As you know, I always save the best to the last. When it comes to dullness supreme in conversation, I have to hand it to the teachers. They go on and on and on about some kid who just won't do his homework, or some meaningless memo from the office, or some student who decided to spend a nice June day in God's great out-of-doors instead of in a dull classroom with a dull teacher.

Maybe I've been harsh in this somewhat blanket condemnation. Certainly none of my friends are full conversationalists. Maybe that's why I have so few friends.

Or perhaps my remarks are based on pure envy. I haven't got a condominium in Florida, I haven't even a row-boat, let alone a cruiser. I haven't a two-car garage, though I have two cars, eighteen years old between them.

That's it. Jealousy. I don't have a swimming pool or a little place—just 40 acres, mind you—in the country. My wife is as near to nuts as can be. One kid is a missionary in Paraguay, the other can't get a job.

That's why I can't stand around with the doctors and lawyers, etc., and commiserate with them on the fact that the price of steak is going absolutely out of reach of the ordinary professional man making only forty-five thou a year.

So many Gods, so many creeds,
So many ways that wind and wind
When all this old world needs
Is just the art of being kind.

The Free Press Back Issues

10 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of July 10, 1968

1,385 strong, representatives of Orange Lodges from 13 counties joined in the annual Orange walk Saturday afternoon in Acton. And this time, the weather for the Glorious Twelfth was glorious. (Four years ago district paraders were drenched.)

A perfect mark in Mathematics A helped Trudy Morris to graduate from Grade 13 with an overall average of 94 per cent.

Due to lack of interest, the annual Halton Dairy Princess contest will not be held this year. However, last year's winner Carol Swackhamer of Acton, will be allowed to represent Halton in 1968 competition in the C.N.E.

Music teachers Mrs. Faye Dawkins Pink and Mrs. Dorothy Richardson Scull, presented their pupils in a summer recital, Tuesday of last week in Knox Church Sunday School room.

Everything is coming up houses in Acton this month. Building permits for homes totalling \$875,280 have been approved by Building Inspector E. T. Marks for construction by three major companies.

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of July 24, 1948

Constable Bud Buckwald of the local O.P.P. detachment reported yesterday (Wednesday) that four smash and grab suspects involved in the robbery at Bexton's Jewellery Store in Acton last week have been arrested and a warrant for a fifth man has been issued.

Mr. and Mrs. Garnet McKenzie and daughter Kathy, accompanied by Ralph McKeown, left today (Thursday) for Santa Monica California where Mr. McKenzie who is Ontario Regional International Director of Y's Men's clubs and Mr. McKeown, who is president of the Acton Y's Men's club, will attend the International Y's Men's convention.

The sewer and water committee recommended to Acton council Monday that the engineers review and bring up to date the costs and plans for the second stage of a municipal water development that would call for construction of a water reservoir on Churchill Rd. N.

50 years ago

Taken from an issue from the Acton Free Press July 26, 1928.

The band concert on Sunday evening had an excellent audience. Although owing to the wet weather of the day the crowd was not as large as that at previous concerts. The band, under the direction of bandmaster Mason, gave a splendid programme. The courtesy of motorists in refraining from leaving the grounds during the playing of numbers was appreciated very much by the musicians and the audience.

The Ladies' Aid of Knox church held an enjoyable afternoon tea at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. Ryder, Mill Street last Thursday afternoon. A delightful programme was given and dainty lunch served.

The enterprise of Messrs. R. L. Gregory and son in bringing to Acton that picture "Ramona" which is having such a successful run in Toronto, was evidently appreciated by the local theatregoers. Three shows were advertised for the picture here but in order to satisfy all who desired to see the picture it was found necessary to run the picture for four performances. Those who witnessed it are loud in their praise of this splendid picture and the aggressiveness of Mr. Gregory in securing it so soon for Acton.

100 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of July 11, 1878.

A reply has been received from the Postmaster General in reference to the petition from the people of this Village, praying for additional mail accommodation. The reply states that the subject will receive due enquiry and consideration.

A society called the Acton Young People's Mutual Improvement Association has been formed in this Village. The first meeting will be held on Monday evening, August 6, in the Congregational Church, when the address will be delivered by the president, Rev. James Davies, on the object of the association. All interested are requested to be present.

Mr. S. W. Galbraith, who has been editor of the Free Press for the past eight months, leaves tonight for Montreal, where he has accepted a situation as a reporter for the Evening Post. Mr. T. A. Moore assumed editorial charge of the Free Press.

THE ACTON FREE PRESS

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Business and Editorial Office



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"You may have the citizens of Acton believing that you're super human and can be everywhere at once, but I know your secret... clones!"