

The Acton Free Press news room is a sad place this week.

Leaving us is a man who has made more friends in the newspaper business (nation-wide) than any other man you'd care to name. Hartley Coles, our editor, will dust off his desk on December 31, turn off his typewriter (if he remembers) and leave his office.

He's not going far. Hartley will once again become full-time editor of the Georgetown Independent, one of our sister papers. He's been shuttling back and forth between the two papers for years anyway. But this official leave-taking gives me an excuse to write a bit of sentiment to one of the nicest guys I know.

Printers' "devil"

A local boy all his life—except for some misguided years spent in Brampton and Georgetown when he was too young to have any say in the matter—Hartley started working for Dills Printing and Publishing when he was 17 and fresh out of school.

He and Dave Dills went to school together. Dave and Jim took over the Dills plant after the death of their father Arlof Dills in 1960. Before that they'd been in partnership with him since 1954.

In the days when Hartley started as a printers' devil, the Dills plant and the Acton Free Press were housed in what is now the Acton Mews. The building is still owned by the Dills brothers.

Those were the days of hand-set type, hot metal, and California job boxes. A printers' devil was an apprentice and expected to learn every phase of the job. Hartley found himself handling the heavy type, setting copy, doing up ads, writing stories when something extra happened and sweeping the floor.

"The job sort of grew on me," he comments.

Linotype Operator

In 1959, The Acton Free Press moved to its present location, along with the rest of the Dills' business. Then occupying the ground floor of the three story building, the paper shared space with the presses, job printing, a leather business, boxes, and assorted people.

Hartley was composing and printing, operating the complicated linotype machine. Arlof Dills was an innovator in Halton County when he introduced the linotype to the Free Press in 1917. Instead of handpicking tiny type letters and setting them carefully in line, an operator could now literally press metal letters out in order by punching a typewriting machine.

Hartley has always had a soft spot for linotyping and old style methods when putting out the paper required sheer muscle.

Along about that time the paper had a scan engraver for photographs. This was a device that scanned the tones of a picture with impulses from

PROFILES

with JENNIFER BARR



an electric eye and transferred the images to a plastic engraving. It was quite an improvement from the old method of getting zinc plates made of a picture to be mounted on a block of wood before printing. Hartley remembers the days when one or two pictures in the weekly issue were a big event.

Sports writer as well

Everyone had two jobs in those days, Hartley remarks. In his spare time he was a sports writer. He received extra salary for it but said he would have done it for free he enjoyed it so much. He was always very active in local sports both baseball and hockey. So going to games and writing them up was no chore for him.

He says the arena was filled to capacity in the early 50's before television came along to ruin sports attendance. Town enthusiasm was high and



Hartley Coles

strong support was given all local teams.

At some point in the '50's Hartley found time to marry Irma Kentner and produce two children, Marianne and Tim. Irma and Hartley also have two delightful grandchildren, Robin and Elizabeth. Both Irma and Tim work in the composing room of the Free Press.

In 1966, the Free Press went offset along with its sister paper the Canadian Champion. Much more space was required for this complicated but efficient way of producing papers. This method utilizes photography, making a negative of a printed page, which is shined onto a rubber roller making an impression which is transferred to paper. No direct impression is made as in old style printing but type is indirectly transferred, hence the name "offset".

"This encouraged much more artistic freedom, allowed us to have better photographs and allowed more sexual equality. Offset does away with hot type and all that heavy lifting," Hartley explains.

New editor

Staff changes were necessary, the papers could be larger and more staff were required. Hartley was asked to become editor of the Free Press and took over in February '67.

Always an award winner, the Free Press took off, piling up so many Ontario and Canadian awards the back room became full. It's continued in this vein ever since.

In 1973, a new paper was started in Georgetown, the Independent. Hartley was the logical choice to steer this new ship to its present very successful position. Last year the Independent topped all previous awards to become First paper in its category in Ontario.

For the first year or so of his life, Hartley was both editor of the Independent and the Free Press combined. However, the Independent soon demanded all of Hartley's time and he relinquished his Free Press desk to Kay Dills.

In November of 1978 Dills Printing and Publishing was sold to Inland Publishing, owners of a chain of Ontario weeklies. Kay Dills retired along with her husband Dave and brother-in-law Jim.

Hartley became managing editor of both papers again, the Independent and the Free Press. For the past year he has worked too hard piloting both sizeable productions so finds it necessary to tip up his seat while he resumes full editorship of the Independent.

He's sad about having to leave the Acton office but says, "Acton's my home and I'll always be here."

As one of the many people who have learned the trade under the careful and caring eye of Hartley Coles, I'll lead a standing ovation for one of the greats in weekly newspapers.



Knox Presbyterian Church stood tall amongst the snow covered trees last week making a lovely picture.

Teacher contract...

(Continued from Page 1)

Ness, is offering more money to the less experienced teachers than to the senior teachers. "Most teachers would be getting less than five per cent increase," he said. A teacher with no experience, at the lowest category, on the other hand would receive a 7.9 per cent increase. The teachers are also asking for an increase in the board's contribution to benefits.

The two sides remain free to chart the path of negotiations in a variety of directions. They may continue or call in a mediator, ask for final offer selection or go to a strike situation.

Sixty days after the fact finder's report is made public (the term will be up January 13) the board may change the conditions of the collective agreement, according to Bulch.

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We reserve the right to limit quantities



Doris Daby was last week's winner of the Acton Merchants' Christmas Draw. She accepted her \$25 gift voucher at Bendelco Gift and Pantry Shop from Ingrid Bendicks.

Foam insulation...

(Continued from Page 1) irritating to eyes and nose. At five parts per million it drives you out of the area, said Mr. Perrin.

However, according to a telephone survey of customers carried out by Rapco Foam, few people notice the irritation. The survey was performed as part of the company's response to a Canadian Broadcasting Corporation Market Place program which focussed on the insulation industry in general and Rapco in particular. "We picked areas where we had a history of warranty," Rapco's Bob Elliott described the survey as being "honest." "We were impartial." In the survey "We picked areas where we had a history of warranty cards," said Mr. Elliott.

Out of 2,508 customers called, 25 indicated they detected occasional odor in a closet or basement, said Mr. Perrin. The survey will be turned over to government agencies such as: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Consumer and Corporate Affairs and the Department of Health.

Rapco this summer introduced a system of checking the quality of work performed by distributors. Agaltonics, of Mississauga, carries out an infra-red scan of a completed job. The scan simply pictures the results of work, so installers can see where they may have missed an area in a wall.

The system, called Rapco Check, was introduced said Mr. Elliott "to ensure our applicators are responsible, so our clients are not ripped off." A Winnipeg firm, Canada Foam, is the only other company to offer the infra-red check, according to Mr. Perrin. About 500 homes have been scanned.

If the job falls under the C.H.I.P. program and all four walls are done, Rapco insists on a scan, said Mr. Elliott.

For Brandco, the Rapco Check is stupendous, according to

Dennis Bruce. A check can be performed in two or three days, he said. Brandco applies cellulose, fibre glass, glass fibre and mineral wool in addition to urea-formaldehyde insulation. Gary Bruce has been in the insulation business about 24 years while brother Dennis completed his twentieth year last month. Their father Howard Bruce had been in the business since 1947. They have used the name Brandco since 1952.

Brandco became a Rapco dealership in 1974, but only after there was good hard look at the industry, said Gary Bruce. "We were watching the market and material. It (Rapco) was new, at least in this country. We found nothing else but good about it," said Gary Bruce.

Brandco employs 15 people, two which are licensed applicators.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



- Club House stuffed manzanilla
- Olives 341 ml **1.39**
- 1 1/4 in. plastic
- Saran Wrap 100' **1.19**
- Maple Leaf
- Mincemeat 28 oz. **1.98**
- Clover Leaf broken Mandarin
- Oranges 10 fl. oz. **.47**
- Sunlight liquid prepriced 1.35
- Detergent 32 fl. oz. **1.29**
- Glad green
- Garbage Bags 10's **1.38**
- E.D. Smith
- Garden Cocktail 28 fl. oz. **.69**
- 3 varieties
- Bick's Dills 32 fl. oz. **.99**

- Ocean Spray jellied or whole
- Cranberry Sauce 14 oz. **.68**
- Ocean Spray
- Cranberry Cocktail 40 fl. oz. **1.29**
- Carnation
- Coffee Mate 16 oz. **1.39**
- Reg. coffee
- Maxwell House 1 lb. **3.39**
- Stokely fancy cream style
- Corn or Peas 14 fl. oz. **2/79**
- Stokely fancy
- Kernel Corn 12 fl. oz. **2/79**
- Salada
- Tea Bags 120's **3.39**
- Ingersoll Can. process
- Cheese Spread 16 oz. **1.79**

- Ingersoll skim Can. process
- Cheese Spread 16 oz. **1.79**
- Cherry Hill Canadian cheddar
- Med. Cheese 12 oz. **1.89**
- Cherry Hill Canadian cheddar
- Old Cheese 12 oz. **1.99**
- Cherry Hill extra old Can. cheddar
- Cheese 12 oz. **2.09**
- French's prepared
- Mustard 16 oz. **.59**
- Weston Brown N Serve
- Twin Rolls 12's **2/1.00**
- Weston Hot Dog or Hamburg
- Rolls 12's **.69**
- Granny
- Butter Tarts 12's **1.09**

TURKEYS

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- Football Hams **2.18** lb.
- Shopsy's 16 oz. Pkg.
- Assorted
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- Shopsy's New 10 oz. Pkg.
- All Beef
- Salami Chubs **1.49**
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- All Beef
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- Schneider's 8 oz. Pkg.
- Assorted Varieties
- MINI DELI
- Sausage Chubs **1.38**
- Schneider's 1 lb. Pkg.
- Assorted Varieties
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- Cooked Meats **.75**

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Dip
8 oz. **.79**

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Juice
48 fl. oz. **.79**

Weston Regular or Thin Sliced
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Sandwich
Bread
24 oz. loaf **2/1.09**

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