

The Acton Free Press

Founded in 1875

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Bell's book reviewed

This year's edition of the Bell telephone directory is the first to list Acton and Georgetown under one cover. It is quite an innovation, however the organization of the book is a disappointment.

The new Bell directory is a disappointment because there is no distinct principle of organization in the Acton and Georgetown white pages. Bell mixes the alphabet, local politics and geography. The result is confusion. And confusion leads to inconvenience.

Here is what directory users find. Acton and Georgetown are listed side-by-side. By alphabet, Acton comes first. The division implicitly acknowledges their geographic separateness. They are, however both under the municipality's name: Halton Hills. Each town gets one mention, at the front of their respective listings. Halton Hills is at the top of each of the 35 or so pages.

The first question one asks after opening the Halton Hills Pages is where am I? The answer is easily determined by reading the exchanges: 853 for Acton; 877 for Georgetown. Why though, should one have to ask? How much time will a stranger spend searching for a friend's name and number on Doby Road—in the Georgetown part of Halton Hills' pages? How much time again will he spend searching for another friend on Delrex Boulevard—in the Acton section? And how much more time will this stranger spend looking for Mr. Smith who lives on Mill Street?

There is a solution. Bell can easily tidy up its directory by adopting the alphabet as the sole principle of organization. Presenting Acton and Georgetown alphabetically also has the advantage of reflecting explicitly their geographic reality. People, after all, think more clearly in terms of

solid geography—and there is miles of Esquesing between here and Georgetown—than in terms of municipal government theory.

This is what one would find if the alphabet is used. Acton would be at the front of the directory, where it has been by alphabet in the Kitchener-Guelph edition. The directory would then be more convenient for Acton residents. Georgetown residents would then have an easier time seeking numbers in the section under Georgetown. One would know where one was. Bell would still be giving Acton people the Georgetown numbers they asked for. And there would be no confusion; no inconvenience.

The organization of the directory's white pages is its major flaw. There are some minor points. The organization of the white pages is at odds with the yellow pages. The yellow ones are titled Georgetown and Acton. Moreover, numbers of each business community are mixed with the other.

Halton Regional Police moved into the YMCA building on Mill Street after the old town hall on Willow Street North closed up a couple of years ago. According to the new directory the police are still holding out at 19 Willow Street North.

The listings for Halton Region still have Acton calling a Milton number. So what? Well Rockwood residents are given a different number to call. An Acton number. Is it not logical for Acton residents also to dial 853-0501?

All in all though, Bell has produced a masterly directory. It gives many Acton residents what they requested in last year's survey. Keep last year's directory however, if you need those Guelph and Kitchener area numbers. They are not in the new book.

E.E.

Our readers write

Icy sidewalks a nightmare

Dear Mr. Editor

Why can't something be done to help the old and handicapped? The Main St. pathway was a sheet of ice last week.

Even for me it was a nightmare. In fact the road to the Legion and other places there was no pathway. One had to walk on the road or pavement.

Some cars slowed down and others did

not.

What a mess!

What about people who live alone and who are not very good walkers? God help them in this town. It is a wonder there were no injuries.

John P. Brownlee
131 Mill St. W.

P.S. Ask the people who have to walk.

Thanks for paper's support

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the staff and residents at Halton Women's Place I wish to extend our sincere gratitude for the publicity you have made possible for our shelter.

Your coverage of our opening in October, your numerous articles and advertising have made many women more aware of our existence and familiar with our services. This support was particularly apparent during the Holiday Season

when we received tremendous donations of food and presents for the women and children staying here.

We at Halton Women's Place find community support, such as yours, very encouraging.

Sincerely
Loretta Costigane, Director,
Halton Women's Place
Emergency Shelter for
Abused Women and Children
Milton, Ontario

Excellent police coverage

Mr. Donald McDonald
Publisher

Dear Mr. McDonald,
On behalf of the Halton Regional Police Force I wish to extend my thanks to you and your staff for the excellent coverage of the "Meet the Force" day held on February 6, 1981 at the Acton Legion.

There is no doubt that the editorials by Gordon Murray contributed to the excel-

lent turnout by the citizens of the community.

Police-Media relations must be maintained at a high level in any community if law enforcement is to be effective.

Please be assured of my continued cooperation in mutual concerns and accept my personal thanks.

W.I. James Harding
Chief of Police

Make gloves part of logo

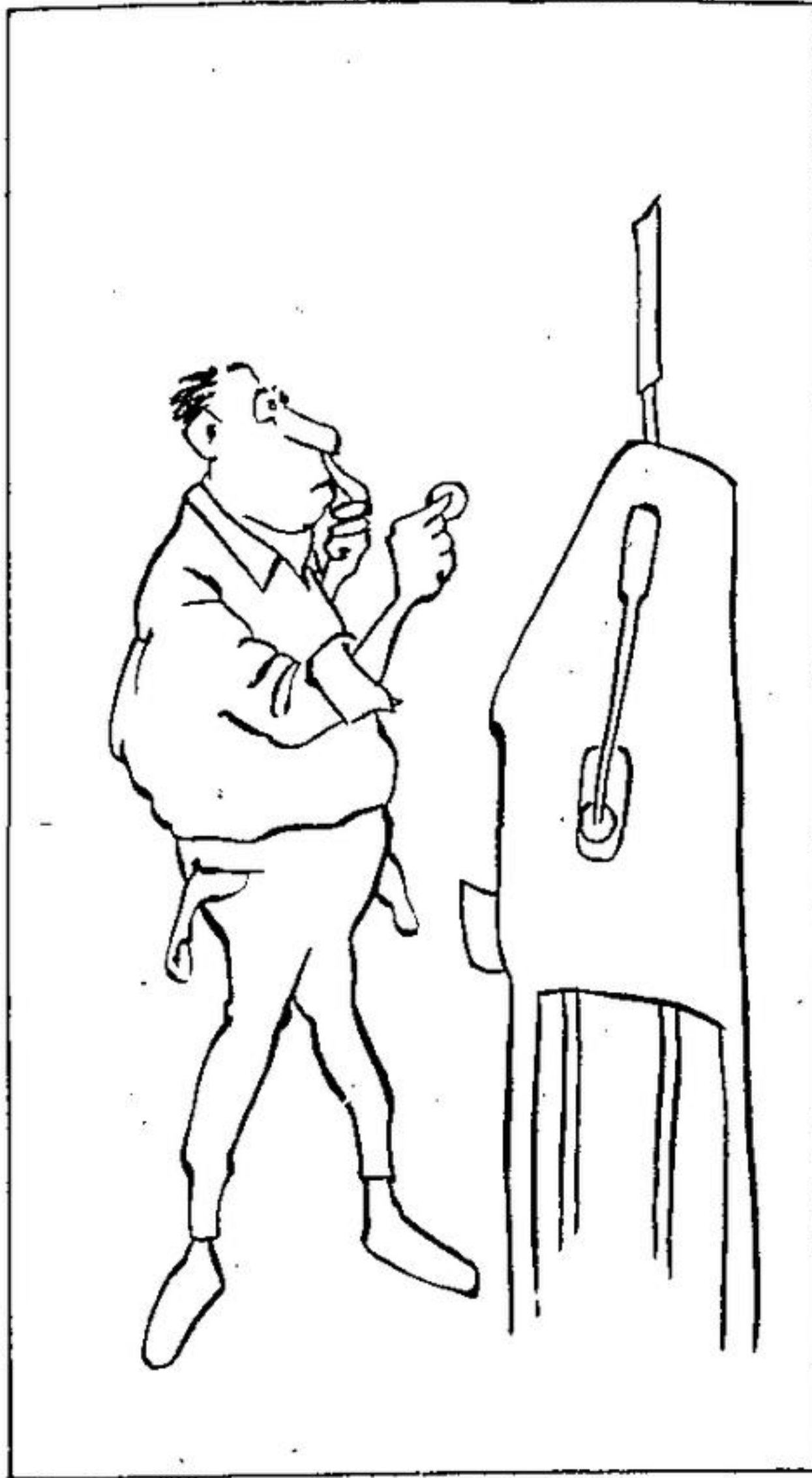
Dear Friends of Leathertown,
Please, may I beg, for your consideration to include a leather glove in your logo.

History of glove making dates back to Acton's early history.
Gloves made in Acton, Ontario, have and will continue to be shipped world-wide.

I know I write personally, the Mowat family has been part of the manufacturing of leather gloves in Acton for many years.

Again, may I beg for your kind consideration.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,
Yours truly
John R. Mowat



On the Leavell

With Helen

Acton friends were sorry to learn Walt Woodburn has died. He was a former manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia and was active in the Chamber of Commerce. He was also United Church treasurer and sang in the choir.

After leaving Acton, Mr. Woodburn worked as a systems analyst in the methods department of the bank's general office in Toronto. He retired in 1969 and lived in Mississauga.

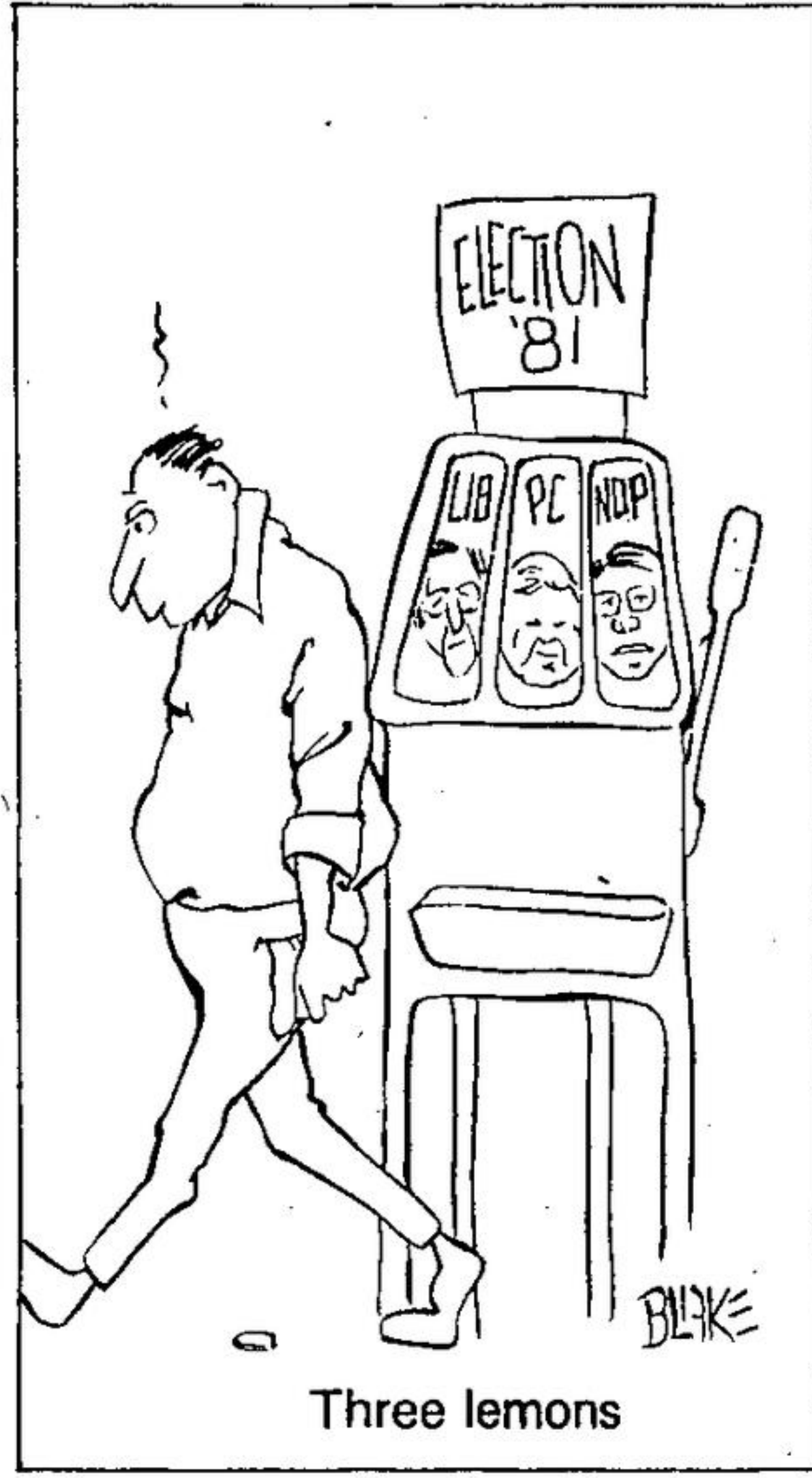
The Woodburns had two sons and a daughter.

Four young Acton residents were

Scout and Guide Week till Sunday



The Third Acton Guides enrolled ten new members last week. They are, in the front row, Denise Autier, Carolyn Hahn and Angela Bartocci. In the middle row, again left to right, Lee Gallant, Kim Cooper, Tracy Smith and Karen Swackhamer. In the rear row are Joyce McIsaac, Debbie Wedge and Jennifer Murr.



Three lemons

baptized at Knox Presbyterian Church, Sunday, with Rev. John Robertson officiating. They were Terrence Stephen Moreland, son of Ken and Heather, 53 Kingham Rd., Mary Elizabeth Robertson, daughter of Brian and Jane, 103 Elizabeth Dr., and James David and Terry Worthman, son and daughter of Stan and Joan, 143 Kingham Dr.

Ever notice how the country seems to be opening up to the needs and emotions of the handicapped. More ramps are being built on public buildings, washrooms are equipped to accommodate a wheelchair, etc. Now, thanks to a group in Kitchener, handicapped folks are able to take riding lessons. The program is dedicated to Riding Instructions for Special Equestrians (RISE) helping those with both physical and mental handicaps.

Three stables make sure everyone who wishes can have lessons. They are located in New Hamburg, Cambridge and Guelph.

Riding for the disabled is both recreational and therapeutic. Not only do students have a chance to get out into the countryside, they also learn to groom, saddle and ride a horse. Movements of the horse help to stimulate the rider's

muscles, improve balance and control, but most of all, the students have a lot of fun and can participate in an activity healthy people enjoy.

The horses are quiet and experienced. There are volunteers on hand to help the rider from the ground. Each student receives individual and understanding attention.

RISE is a non-profit organization relying on government grants, fund raising events and donations to subsidize the lessons, buy special equipment and promote the program. However, public support is also desperately needed. For more information contact Frank Mensink, 119 Sandown Ave., Kitchener or Joanne Ford, 147 Meaford Dr., Waterloo, (519) 884-2579.

Former Acton resident Gabe Strachan has joined the westward movement. Gabe left Acton about five years ago to live in Paisley where she operated a small printing firm which eventually expanded to publish two newspapers. However, the call of the west struck her last May and now she's in Surrey, British Columbia with husband Dennis Cardy and her sons. She's taking things easy these days but if I know Gabe, she'll soon have some venture underway.

Back issues

10 years ago

Wednesday, February 17, 1971

Although crowds weren't up to expectations, the Acton Y's Men ran an afternoon of snowmobiling races Sunday.

Top drivers of the day were Ed Stewart and Dave Carson. Ross Ribey presented the trophies.

A group of community women are working on a "swap shop" in the Y.

According to the Toronto Star, this area is one of four identified as a possible site for the new international jetport. Mayor Doby said Acton can move ahead to about 7,500 people, airport or not.

Acton Community Credit Union recently began full-time operation.

Another attempt will be made by council to determine the ownership of the Y.M.C.A. Rev. Lynna Adams is now the minister of Hillcrest United Church.

20 years ago

Thursday, February 16, 1961

Duke of Devonshire chapter IODE played hostess to some of Halton's new citizens at a reception in the court house, Milton.

Acton Scottish Dance Club will sponsor a blitz for funds for the new North Halton School for the Mentally Retarded. The site has already been chosen.

TCA Captain Jack Uren recalled for the Free Press that he flew the bomber named "Acton" from Toronto to England. The plane was named for Acton for winning the Fourth Victory Loan campaign. It flew in numerous bombing raids. Mr. Uren also has a model of the plane.

Anne Shortill, a Speyside school student, received a gold Bible as winner in the local Gideons' essay contest. This year marks the golden anniversary of the Gideons.

Fun Fare cooking school is being held at the Legion this week.

Former night school students have banded together as the 301 Club using the top floor of Dills Printing.

50 years ago

Thursday, February 19, 1931

Acton council, school board and the board of health have all opposed a proposed county health unit. The cost of \$20,000 or over to the county and the share to the municipalities would be prohibitive. The health unit was proposed to experimentally replace the system of local health officers.

The Literary Society of the Continuation school had a social in the parish hall. There were several numbers and Miss Velma Blair was critic. Murray Smith was chairman. A light lunch and a dance followed, until the signal was given at 10:30 p.m. for the meeting to end.

The OHA race for Intermediate hockey honors is over, as far as Acton is concerned. Now Acton and Georgetown are playing for the Peter Smith Trophy.

Eden Mills Town Hall was filled to capacity for the Oyster Supper put on by the ladies of the United Church.

Chief MacPherson has had as high as ten transient guests at night in the town hall. Rarely a night passes without an enquiry for lodging.

75 years ago

Thursday, February 15, 1906

Acton hockey team played their first match of the season in Erin and succeeded in winning by a score of 9 to 5.

Our venerable and esteemed citizen Thomas Perryman is now in his 90th year. He was four weeks and four days in crossing the Atlantic in 1843 and came to Canada without a friend. Now he is surrounded by children to the third generation. When he came to Acton 58 years ago there were but two stores here John Holgate's at the south east corner of Mill and Main and W. McLennahan's at the side of the present Knox church. Both buildings were long ago destroyed.

Messrs. M. Saxe and J. Fenkel, two Russian soldiers who have been working for the Acton Tanning Co. have commenced business as dealers in old metal. They were both in the Russo-Japanese war but deserted, escaping through China.

The G.T.R. bridge gang is strengthening the bridges at Rockwood, Georgetown and Guelph getting ready for the big mogul engines which will be coming through in a few weeks.

100 years ago

Thursday, February 17, 1881

It is our painful duty to chronicle the death of Mr. Fred H. Storey of the firm of Messrs. Storey and Son. About three years ago his health began to show signs of failing. In the care of Dr. McGarvin he went to Nassau and returned greatly improved in health. However it became evident consumption had poised its fatal dart.

Vital statistics for the village for the year ended: births 24, marriages 9 and deaths 8. Rev. Wilkinson was made the recipient of a purse containing \$100 in recognition of his success in the recent debates on Baptism.

A bylaw was passed fixing salaries: Clerk and Treasurer \$80 per annum; Assessor \$20, Collector \$25, Auditors \$5 each, Chief Constable \$50 and fees, Returning Officer \$2 per day. Collector of statute labor tax 15 per centum of collections.



The second Acton Pathfinders held an investiture last week at Trinity United. New members are front row Darci Thornton and Kelly Harrison, and back Tlu Jago and Angella Allen.



First Acton A pack invested some new cubs last week. They are, left to right, in the top row: Mike Waskalik, Jamie Lowrie, and Michael McGrath. In the front row, left to right, Jesse Owen, Mark Smith and John Addison. They are pictured with their leader Ross Walsh.