

The Acton Free Press

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Business and Editorial Office

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We do remember

The ranks of veterans get slimmer as they swing down the street for the ceremonies of Remembrance Day which honor the dead of two world wars and the Korean conflict. They were held in Acton and Nassagaweya Sunday preceding November 11 (today) so veterans and others could attend and participate in the parade and service.

Canadians gather at war memorials in some 2,000 cities, towns and villages, standing with heads bowed and the familiar poppy pinned on their breasts. There is a minute of silence to pay tribute to the 114,000 Canadians killed in conflict.

Those who are old enough remember in their own way. Those who are too young to know have difficulty realizing what it is all about, a ceremony for people they never knew. Yet almost all families who lived in Canada during the last war has someone they knew, a close friend or relative, among the names of casualties inscribed on the cenotaph.

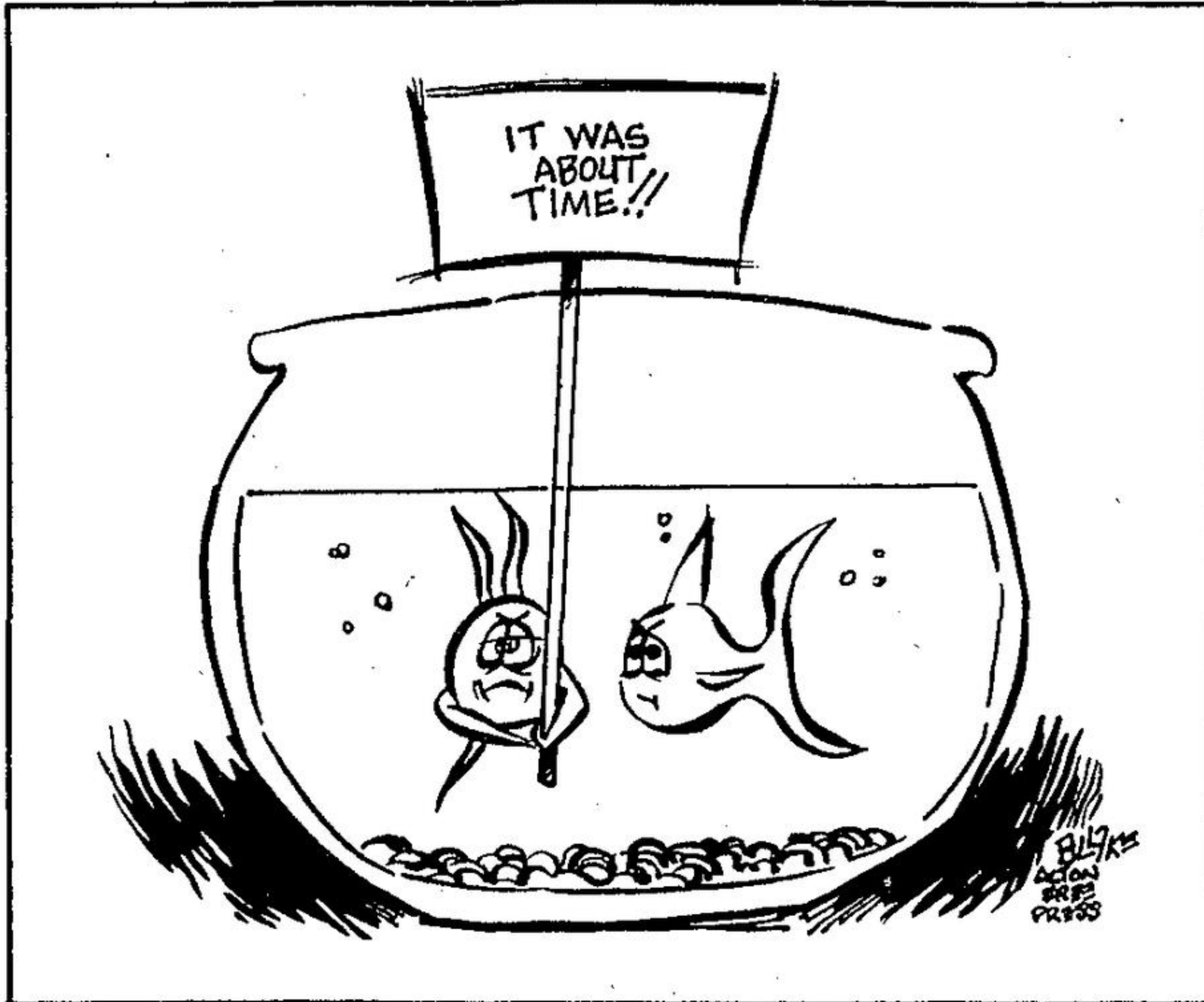
Wives remember the long wait for husbands, some of whom never returned. Children recall the fatherless years a father was in uniform.

Veterans remember the comrade who marched beside them, left on the battlefield and now lies in some European cemetery.

Many of them, only boys, marched away in expectation of a great adventure. They were thrust into a cauldron of hate and carnage. Many who returned still bear the scars of wounds they suffered.

Yet for all its horrors the war years left us with the freedoms we judge to be so precious, a feeling the sacrifice of so many of the flowers of our country the only path to follow. It strengthens the conviction it should not happen again, conviction that peace must always be sought.

The poppy is a symbol of remembrance, it is also a symbol of a future in peace, but a resolve never to bow to tyranny. Wear it proudly. H.C.



Back issues

10 years ago

November 10, 1971

Acton council has accepted the sale of 48 acres of land south of Cobblehill Rd., known as the moose pasture, to Alleo Construction for \$104,000.

Icy winds whipped flags and froze bandsmen's fingers at the Remembrance Day service at the cenotaph. During the dinner at the Legion honoring the "old sweats", 25 year veterans presented with pins were Jack Couture, Ted Elliott, Frank Jones, Doug Manning, Joan McKnight, Jim McKnight, H.C. Price, Herb Woods, Gord James, Walter Dubois and Jack Ridley.

High school Marketing and Arts students will be decorating store windows for Christmas.

The Tramp Champs, a trampoline act, rated Actonians as "the happiest people we've ever performed for."

Sam Glsby has retired after delivering mail at Limehouse for 22 years.

20 years ago

Thursday, November 9, 1961

The nine grade 13 graduates honored at commencement exercises were Doreen Gordon, Irene Vorey, Susan Wilson, Denis Gibbons, Bruce Macpherson, Laurence Doby, James Swackhamer, Harold Reid and Bob Hinton. Top award winners and valedictorian was Doreen Gordon. Guest speaker was Joe Connell, general secretary of Kitchener-Waterloo Y. Barry Kirkness received the E.G. Tyler scholarship for the student contributing the most.

The most familiar faces at Remembrance Day in Acton is that of Wilfred Coles, veteran of the Boer War and World War I, and a former member of Halton Rifles Militia. Again this year he will raise and lower the flag at the cenotaph. Both he and his wife have been ardent workers in Legion activities. Ill health prevented Mrs. Coles from selling poppies this year.

Over 600 were served at Knox church anniversary turkey supper. Charles Kirkness was master of ceremonies for the program.

50 years ago

November 12, 1831

The town hall was packed for the 13th memorial service. Almost every veteran was in the parade which formed up at the Band Hall. Reeve Mason spoke, Rev. Bennie and Rev. Poole led in prayer, and Rev. Sawyer gave the address. The group then gathered at the Soldiers' Monument. Corp. J.J. Cooney read the names. The Lakeside chapter of the IOOE followed their usual custom and decorated the graves of soldiers at Fairview cemetery, and also visited Dublin cemetery.

Council felt they could not compensate Miss A. Perryman, whose fence was torn down during Halloween pranks. Extra police protection had been provided.

The gold medals for each member of the Dominion champion tug-of-war team were received this week by trainer Mr. H.L. Ritchie for the Beardmore team. A group photograph has been taken and is on display in the Free Press window.

75 years ago

November 8, 1808

Certain streets, which for years have been practically in the possession of Beardmore company, were officially bought by council. The consideration given was \$150 and all legal expenses. It is the intention of the company at some time in the future to neatly fence all their property.

The quarterly services of the Rockwood circuit at Siloam were observed Sunday and well attended.

The library board book committee has been instructed to purchase more biographical and scientific works, to the value of \$300.

Two passenger coaches filled with well-to-do emigrants bound for Utah passed through Acton.

Contractor J.B. Mackenzie, who is engaged in the enlargement and improvements to the Presbyterian church in Rockwood, had the misfortune to fall and sprained his right ankle.

100 years ago

November 10, 1881

The committee appointed to select a site for the new town hall reported: R. Agnew's lot on Main St., between the Dominion and Royal Exchange hotels, \$200; A. Stephenson's lot, south west corner of west Bower and Willow \$400; Mrs. J. Adams' lot, south east corner Bower and Willow \$500; Christie and Henderson's lot on Bower Ave. opposite A. Matthews Sr., \$400; the Ryder lot, south east corner of Mill and Elgin \$500. Moved by M. Speight, seconded by D.W. Campbell that council purchase Mrs. Adams' property at her price of \$500. It is the largest of the lots, being 100 by 100 feet.

W.H. Storey has submitted his resignation from council since he is not in accord with the reeve and certain members of council relative to their selection of the site.

Mr. Thomas Moore was re-engaged as teacher of the first department at the salary of \$550 and free residence. Miss Jennie Grant was engaged as teacher of the second department for \$275.

Punishment should fit the crime, but often doesn't

It has become an old saw, but once again this week there has been clear demonstration there is something seriously out of whack about our judicial system.

Punishment just doesn't seem to fit the crime very often.

Three Acton youths appeared in provincial court this week on a pair of charges each stemming from an incident last summer in which a Halton Regional Police officer was assaulted.

The main culprit received a \$500 fine and his two cohorts \$250 penalties.

All three had struck or held or manhandled the officer in some manner during the performance of his duty, protecting the public and enforcing the laws of the land.

Yet, they weren't treated as harshly as an impaired driver is by the courts.

By stating this we by no means suggest the courts treat the charge of impaired driving lightly. Drunk drivers must be kept off the road for the safety of everyone. Penalties are and should be stiff for impaired driving.

But, we believe the punishment for assaulting a police officer should be tougher than for an impaired driver.

While we aren't privy to any dealings between the crown and defence counsel it is obvious some kind of a deal had been struck. All three accused pleaded guilty, for each, one charge was dropped and the defence lawyer made no comment on the crown's sentencing recommendations.

It looks like to speed up the wheels of justice the crown opted for a plea Thursday, a quick conviction and a sentence the trio could live with.

An impaired driver is hit with a fine like \$250 as well as suspension of his driver's licence for three months.

These three receive no period of incarceration, unless they can't pay off their piddling fines during the same time period the impaired driver must refrain from operating a motor vehicle.

The impaired driver endangers other lives. But doesn't the person or persons who attack a police officer, especially since the cop needed help from civilian bystanders to bring the situation under control?

The impaired driver is treated harshly as a warning to others.

What was the weight of the warning to others who might resist arrest and their friends who might consider lending a so-called helping hand?

The problems with our judicial system are complex. We won't propose a simple solution because there isn't one.

But, by no stretch of the imagination is a weak financial slap on the wrist for assaulting a police officer anywhere near the direction our courts should be heading.

How are the impressionable young going to learn to respect law enforcement officers if the courts don't respect them enough to deal sternly with those who try to prevent them from carrying out their serious and onerous tasks?



On the Leavell

With Helen

LOST—The name and telephone number of a lady interested in participating in the Canadian Cancer Society's clinic in Toronto.

Rena Arbie is in a real quandry and is hoping Free Press readers can help.

On Friday October 23 a lady telephoned her at her home about the clinic and left a message with her daughter. Mrs. Arbie's daughter called her mother at St. Joseph's church to pass on the message, and Mrs. Arbie immediately called the women back. The lady gave her name and address and her age, all of which Rena wrote down. However, in the confusion of clean up after the bazaar, the paper the information was written on got lost. Mrs. Arbie is desperate to get back to this lady, but all she can remember is that the caller was 59-years-old and eligible for the clinic.

If the lady who called Mrs. Arbie is reading, please telephone her at 853-0744.

This week's winners in the 500 Club draw are 420 Jim Jennings and 490 John Weldon.

The Free Press received an anonymous telephone call on Monday from a lady saying J. Niestroy had won a "substantial amount of money" in the Provincial Lottery recently. She wouldn't give her name, how she knew or even the amount.

Well, a phone call to the Niestroy Kingham Rd. home revealed the winning ticket was only worth \$25. A call to the Ontario Lottery Corporation in Toronto confirmed the Niestroy's had not won a lot of money.

But we aren't discouraging people to call us with news tips. In fact we greatly appreciate it. A newspaper is only as good as its readers, and our staff can't be everywhere all the time. Even if news tips don't turn out, it is better to try and get the information than not know about it at all.

By the way call about even small lottery wins for inclusion in this column.

McKenzie-Smith Middle School is not holding its annual magazine drive this year. Instead they are having a giant garage sale bake sale November 21 to raise funds. All donations are welcome, and all are welcome to come out to the big sale in the McKenzie-Smith gym from 9 until noon. Refreshments will be available at a nominal cost.

Anyone with any goods they wish to donate can call the school at 853-3800 and someone will pick up the items.

Christine Kerins, of Rosemary Road, was the lucky winner of the hand woven cushion in the draw held at the recent Acton Arts and crafts exhibition and sale.

And from Sandra Kenzie of the La Leche League: "If your family is awaiting the arrival of a new member, the Acton La

Leche League meeting "The Family and the Breastfed Baby" may interest you. Informal discussion will centre on how to manage those first hectic weeks with emphasis on the entire family as well as timely tips for mother and baby. The meeting will be held Monday, November 16 at 8 p.m. For further information call 877-4732.

Happy silver wedding anniversary greetings go out to Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Woods who marked 25 years of marriage on November 3.

More wedding anniversary best wishes go out to Clup and Mona Petrillo who celebrated 11 years of marriage on November 6.

Birthday greetings go out to Mona who celebrated her 31st birthday November 2.

The Acton Tennis Club has wound up another successful season, and will celebrate with a diner and dance November 21 at the Acton Meadows Golf and Country Club. Award presentations will take place at this time. Anyone wanting to join for next season is asked to call Margot Bollert at 853-2832.

Rockwood resident Peter Gzowski appeared on Global News yesterday (Tuesday) to talk about his new book "Games of our Lives." Gzowski, a much published author, told Mike Anselm of Global that he spent a year with the Edmonton Oilers hockey team to get an insider's look at professional hockey. Even to an occasional arm-chair hockey fan like me, the book looked like a good one.

What's that phrase. Take care of the nickles and dimes and the dollars will take care of themselves.

Well Churchill Rd. resident Lance Alton recently found out just how true that is.

Lance and a friend found themselves at Mohawk Raceway, with only the price of admission, and one dollar each left over. They pooled their money and placed a two dollar bet on the tractor. Wasn't too long before they found themselves collecting \$700.

Not a bad return on your money!

I just returned home on Sunday from spending 20 days with siblings in Calgary, Alberta. But I wasn't gone very long before I found myself taking notes to include in this column.

While in a book store in a Calgary mall, I noticed a book entitled "Moving to Toronto and Area." I glanced through it and sure enough there was a section for Halton Hills, explaining the regional structure. Information included housing, recreation, shopping, community information, education, communication and transportation. Seemed strange being over 2,000 miles away from home, and reading about it.

Still in another book store (I go into them a lot), I saw a book on Nassagaweya artist Robert Bateman. And while in Banff on Thursday I was really surprised to see a map of all the old Indian trading posts in an Indian museum. There, in the middle of the province, just next door to Rocky Mountain House, was Acton House, established 1799. It was labelled as a major trading post.

I had a terrific time seeing the sights of the city, which had grown tremendously since the last time I was there 11 years ago. There was construction taking place at every turn, and surprisingly enough, I heard more French there than I do in Toronto.

Our readers write

Letter carriers thanked

The Halton Seniors' Information Committee would like to publicly express their appreciation to the postal carriers in Acton for their recent distribution of the Halton Seniors' Telephone Directory to the town's senior citizens. Without their assistance and help the distribution would have been much

more difficult and expensive. Our thanks go to all the carriers who provided this service for us. Yours truly, (Mrs.) Joyce Armour Chairman HALTON SENIORS' INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Writers must sign letters to the editor