

# The Acton Free Press

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Business and Editorial Offices Founded in 1875

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## Dead mega-projects means Ottawa save leather firms

It may seem far-fetched, maybe even absurd, but the cancellation of mega-projects like the tar sands plants in Alberta and delay of the Alaskan pipeline could be a real blessing for Acton.

Let us explain. For some time now, while the economy went down the drain it has been obvious the Trudeau Liberals have been hitching their hopes for economic recovery on the mega projects, the jobs they'd create and spin-off investment in all sectors.

However, with those projects dead or in limbo, the government will obviously have to totally rethink its economic strategy quickly so that better times return before the Liberals must face the electorate again.

And included in that rethinking of the economic policies will have to be another look at little things (little when viewed in the overall economic picture) like import quotas on shoes.

Without new investment and job creating projects in the energy field looming on the horizon Ottawa can't afford to continue its tight money policies, hence high interest rates, and keep up the strategy of fighting inflation on the backs of the ever increasing number of unemployed, small business, consumers and farmers, etc.

Nor will the government be able to allow any more industries to go down the tube.

Undoubtedly there was some other reason in the backs of Ottawa minds for lifting import quotas other than giving the leather and shoe industries in this country the big flush.

The lobbying of the leather and shoe industries as well as by unions must be getting the message across to the cabinet that the industries could well disappear without quotas unless the heads that run Canada are even thicker than most people figure. Leather firms and workers here as well as now the local merchants have been doing a pretty good job of hounding the politicians and mandarins in Ottawa. Reports are that the same types of pressure are coming from other leather and shoe communities in Canada too.

So, unless the Liberals want to become nothing more than a Quebec based party after the next federal vote, (and even Trudeau wouldn't want history to record him as the man who left Canada with just the Tories and NDP,) the government is going to have to start acting, and acting fast to turn the economy around.

A good and sensible starting point for federal economic action would be to preserve the industries still breathing enough to at least employ some people.

## Needs task force urged for board by Fisher, Bruce

Parents, taxpayers without children in school, people from business and industry, educators, councillors and many others from all walks of life have an opportunity to tell Halton Board of Education what they consider to be the needs of pupils and how costs can be cut if Trustees Betty Fisher and Arlene Bruce's plans for a task force are approved by their colleagues.

Last Tuesday night Halton Hills councillors endorsed Oakville's call for the board to reconsider its whopping 22 per cent tax hike for Halton Hills and also invited trustees to come to council and explain why the tax increase is so staggering this year.

Monday night Fisher and Esqueing Trustee Betty Walker came to council and announced plans for the task force as well as the board's move to zero based budgeting.

Her request that council not endorse Oakville's resolution and instead start working with the board to help solve their financial problems was ignored.

Fisher announced she and Bruce have filed a notice of motion calling for a "needs task force" on which all types of taxpayers would sit to totally review the Halton system and determine what is really needed and affordable and where cuts can be made.

She explained board spending went up just 13.7 per cent over 1981 in the new budget, but taxes soared because Halton has begun to pierce funding ceilings set by the province, provincial grants were trimmed, the province has imposed costly new program requirements on the schools and the board had no reserves to cushion the financial blow.

Councillor Harry Levy observed other boards cushioning the tax blow by using reserves will just be caught later with staggering tax hikes and so praised Halton for not building up reserves over the years. He said he saw many "glaring" examples of huge percentage spending increases in the board budget and urged trustees follow Halton Hills method of setting a spending increase limit at the start of budgeting and not going over it no matter what.

He noted Halton Hills must be realistic in its spending because the municipality collects taxes for three levels of government and drastic spending cuts are made at the local level.

A board finance department official, Ron Warren, said the board did set a target of 13.5 per cent spending increase and wound up spending 13.87

more with the '82 budget. He and Walker explained there were 57 requests for program expansions or new programs costing \$1.7 million, but \$1 million was chopped. Fisher observed taxes were originally going to go up 26 per cent in Halton Hills and the board managed to slash that down to 22 per cent.

For the first time finance committee will meet all year long to keep a close eye on the budget and the committed used zero based budgeting for additions and expansions for programs this year and will expand that procedure to the entire budget for 1983. Zero based budgeting will allow trustees to know where every single cent is going.

She agreed it isn't fair for the board to set its budget and hence put the squeeze on Halton Hills plans and thought the needs task force would help solve that problem.

Fisher said cuts haven't hurt the schools for 1982 and said if school cuts have to come then the board might as well give up. She said changes in administration and staff cuts are being examined now and Warren noted the number of teachers will be chopped this fall.

Councillor Pam Sheldon said children are receiving too much information and too many programs, that wants and needs are confused and needs must be related to costs. She said a lot of information students are being taught, programs they receive, just aren't necessary. Children aren't left enough time to grasp and conceptualize the knowledge they receive. She suggested children could be taught a quarter less volume than they are now and there would be savings.

Fisher said what Sheldon was suggesting was exactly what the needs task force would examine. She said the board's goals would be reviewed, programs people feel are needed now and in the future identified, costs of programs reviewed and their educational benefits in relation to costs assessed. Walker suggested the task force could supply the board with ammunition to fight the province when they push new programs on the board by showing what the community feels it needs from the schools. Fisher said at the very least the task force would determine what is needed and what can be afforded.

Councillor Ross Knechtel said he wanted to assure the trustees there is a "deep rooted" disturbed feeling among taxpayers about board spending and the trustees must

(Continued on page 7)



### On the Leavell

With Helen

Happy anniversary greetings go out to Ed and Dottie McGilloway. The couple celebrated 30 years of marriage on Monday, May 3. They were married in Acton.

Bouquets should be thrown in Scott Nowlan's direction for participating in the district level of the Optimist Club oratorical competition in Vanier near Ottawa on the weekend. Scott got as far as the semi-finals.

Dr. John Hendry has a problem. Dr. Hendry is from Bowmanville and is trying to get in touch with May Erskine from Hawaii. What does that have to do with Acton?

May is apparently vacationing in the area, and Dr. Hendry, a cousin, wants to see her. Unfortunately he doesn't know where she is staying.

May telephoned the veterinarian's sister a few weeks back to say she was in Acton, but failed to mention who she was with. Dr. Hendry was in Guelph on Monday and stopped into the Free Press office on his way through town to see if we knew where May might be staying.

May used to be with the vice-counsel for the British Embassy in Hawaii, but has since retired and is still living there.

The last time the two met was about one-and-a-half years ago when Dr. Hendry stopped at Hawaii on his way back from a trip to Australia and New Zealand.

Anyone knowing where May is staying, if she is still in the area, can call me at 853-2010 and I'll relay the message to Dr. Hendry.

The Rockwood Co-op Nursery is holding its annual tea and bazaar this Saturday at the Rockwood Centennial School. The co-op has about 60 families supporting it, with about 10 from Acton.

There will be many interesting tables including crafts, baked goods, white elephant and penny table. There will also be lots for children to do, and there will be a draw for prizes donated by local stores.

I made my first appearance on the basketball court in 12 years on Sunday, and today feel as if it will take me another 12 years to recover.

I'll be the first person to admit I am lacking a few inches in the leg department (people are falling all over themselves to be the second), but I did a good job of staying up with the taller ones of my basketball playing entourage who hit the courts at McKenzie-Smith for an hour-and-a-half game.

I got through the first half in great shape (if you don't count the fact my head felt like it would burst, I couldn't breathe and my legs had turned to rubber). It was the second half that was my downfall.

On a pass from Gord, I got bopped in the side of the head with the ball. Not to worry, I took it on the chin--so to speak. Then another pass from Gord was stopped by my glasses--whack. But I withstood. A third pass, from you guessed it, caught me square in the mouth (maybe he was trying to tell me something). But I was strong, I

hung in. After all, if our friends' seven year old kids can, so can I. Then, a fourth pass from good old green eyes, didn't make it to my head. I managed to catch it, but sprained by finger doing so.

After the game, I discovered what I thought was a cut on my leg. One of my more athletic friends said it looked more like a burn mark from a running shoe scraping across my leg.

Okay guys, I got the message. But the agony really came out the next day, and the next. My muscles' muscles are sore. I had my injured finger taped up, using the next finger as a splint, with a nice soft tissue between to cushion them. It's off now. I can once again move my finger, my swollen lip has gone down, and the mark on my leg is almost gone.

But the stiffness in my muscles is the lingering concern. I guess the only medicine is to get back out on the court and overcome my ineptness with the game.

Rick Bonnette wants everyone to know he has not exercised his right of free enterprise. He has not gone into the aluminum siding business.

Rick of Acton Travel got a call Monday morning from a lady wanting a quote on how much it would be to cover her house in aluminum siding. She said she got his name and number from the yellow pages. Sure enough, there on page 9, of the Regional Halton-Peel yellow pages, under Aluminum Products was Acton Travel Ltd. Rick checked under the travel portion of the pages, where he was supposed to be, and guesses what--he wasn't there.

Rick's good at giving quotes, but not the siding kind.

"It's Great to be Alive", the story of Christine Allemang, of Kitchener, will be presented at Trinity United Church on May 19. It is a personal testimony of Christine, through song, of the difficult life she has led.

After two major operations for cancer, one leaving her paralysed from the waist down, she has become a song writer and

public speaker and is booked into women's and church groups until the fall.

The evening is sponsored by the Trinity Activity Group, and Marlon Houlding also of Kitchener, will accompany Christine for some of her musical numbers.

For more information call Ruth Kellough at 853-3406.

The Halton Hills Arts Council has already booked their Trillium Series for the 1982-83 series. All the concerts will be held Wednesday evenings at the Cultural Centre in Georgetown.

On September 29, Felix Possak, a one man band will be playing various instruments.

January 26, Robert and Sarah Feuerstein from Rumania will be entertaining. She plays the classical piano and he plays guitar.

On April 13 York Winds will be performing.

Tickets are on sale now, and many people, some from Acton, have already purchased them. Call Yvonne Rosenquist, 853-0915 for further information.

The Arts Council is also looking for new members.

### MEANDERINGS by Mabel Barkman

Rhubarb Pineapple Jam

Soon it will be rhubarb season and if you get tired of rhubarb pies, try making a bit of rhubarb pineapple jam which is delicious with homemade biscuits.

Dice enough rhubarb so that when added to a bit of water and simmered it will make two cups of sauce. Now add one cup of crushed pineapple and half a box of Certo crystals. Bring to a full rolling boil and add about two cups of sugar.

Go according to taste as some people do not like too sweet a jam.

Bring this to a full boil and stir so that it will not burn. In a minute or two it will look thick enough to pour into your jam containers.

Let cool, put in fridge and your jam will be ready for a Spring breakfast.

## Clergy Comment

by Rev. Art Tribe

The Wednesday noon-hour lunches and addresses sponsored by the Acton Ministerial were very well attended with over 100 people coming each week to have fellowship and to listen to Rev. Bern Warren's informative and challenging addresses.

We were all encouraged by this enthusiastic turn-out to witness as Christians and to take time out during the middle of the week from our busy lives and address ourselves to the call of God. Mr. Warren's topics were: Jesus in Acton; In her people; In her churches; In her daily life. We were asked to consider if Jesus was Lord of our individual lives. It is only by accepting His lordship in our life that our churches can really and truthfully fulfill their mandate to be part of the Family of God and the Body of Christ.

In the stressful, busy life that we lead, it is all too often the case that we go about our daily tasks without having invited God to become part of that day. In our house each morning, we gather together as a family, and I commit each one of us into the loving care of God; asking Him to guard, direct and advise each of us throughout the day.

If this is not done by people, it is no wonder that so many are experiencing

a sense of helplessness, confusion, panic, defeat, depression, discouragement, with the way their days are turning out. You see, God wants to be important in your life. He has promised to take the burdens from our shoulders; to forgive, cleanse and heal us when we have erred.

Paul reminds us that "God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Paul also tells us that God will not allow us to be tempted or tested beyond our strength, but with the test, He will provide a way through the situation to a bright and victorious tomorrow. Make no mistake about it, God is a contemporary God who knows our thoughts before we think them. You can have the presence of God with you if you invite Him into your life. Call on that Presence each morning to enable you to be happy, joyful and effectively positive in all that you do, think, or say.

Jesus said: "In this world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." Jesus means that He has overcome all the problems of this world, including those in your life. Invite Him into your daily life and allow Him to overcome your problems and to give you a wholesome, fulfilling experience today and all of your tomorrows.

## Back issues

10 years ago

May 3, 1972

Mel McCullough of Acton received the Gold Star Breeder Award at the annual meeting of the Canadian Guernsey Breeder's Association.

Cathy Grise of M.Z. Bennett Public School won the public speaking finals on Friday April 28. An assembly of grades 6, 7 and 8 heard the six finalists. Cathy's presentation on her father was chosen as the best.

Miss Joanne Landsborough returned home Sunday from a ten day motor trip to Florida with a group of Waterloo University students.

Recent visitors with Mrs. J. Frank were Mr. and Mrs. A. Gowlett, Parry Sound.

Acton Chamber of Commerce honored Citizen of the Year Dave Dills at the annual dinner and dance last Saturday at the Band Hall. The music was supplied by the popular and lively Shaynes.

20 years ago

May 3, 1962

A tradition through the past 22 years was broken in a pleasant and charming manner, Thursday evening April 28, when the Acton Y's Men's Club included daughters at the 23rd annual Father and Son banquet. About 100 attended the event in the Y.

On Tuesday Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Beatty left by plane for five weeks abroad.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Hargrave celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary quietly at home on Tuesday.

Mr. Richard Harris, the Dean of correspondents for the Free Press, observed his 83rd birthday last week. He writes the Rockwood news each week and is a frequent visitor in the Free Press office.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Slaven, R.R. 4, Acton, and Mrs. Slaven's mother, Mrs. Agnes Sweeney, attended the Guelph District Highland Dancing Association competitions on Saturday evening in Guelph, and saw their eight year old daughter, Margaret capture first place honors in the eight and under class.

50 years ago

April 28, 1932

Mr. and Mrs. G.A. Dills were in Montreal for a couple of days last week, where the editor of The Acton Free Press was attending the convention of the Ontario-Quebec division of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association.

The annual meeting of the Women's Institute will be held at the home of Mrs. G.H. Lantz on Thursday, May 5, at 2:30 p.m.

Mrs. F.A. McLean, of Chesley spent this weekend at the home of her mother, Mrs. Wm. Johnstone.

Mr. and Mrs. A. MacDonald and Mr. and Mrs. Kinnawin attended the ordination and induction service of Mr. Ross K. Cameron at Streetsville on Tuesday evening.

Miss Ruby Clark, of Toronto, was a weekend visitor at her home here.

The regular meeting of the Duke of Devonshire Chapter of the IOOE will be held on Tuesday evening May 3 at the home of Mrs. A. Mason, at eight o'clock.

75 years ago

May 2, 1907

The anniversary of the Methodist Sunday School last Sunday and Monday was in all respects successful. On Sunday the school attended the morning and evening services filling the choir alcove and large platform and half a dozen of the centre pews.

The annual concert Monday evening was directed by Miss Amy L. Doty of London, an accomplished directress of Sunday School entertainments. About 115 took part. Miss Doty left by Tuesday morning's train to commence work on a similar entertainment at Thorold.

At the monthly meeting of the Ministerial Association Rev. Mr. Facey gave a paper on The Sociology of St. Paul. Mrs. Barker entertained the members to tea.

The usual liquor licenses have been granted for the hotels in Rockwood.

The Oddfellows presented a temperance melodrama in the town hall, with 14 Acton young people in the cast. The house was crowded.

100 years ago

May 4, 1882

From the Dominion census, religious denominations figures for Acton are: Baptists 36, Roman Catholics 33, Church of England 119, Congregationalists 17, Disciples 60, Lutherans 2, Canada Methodists 308, Episcopal Methodists 17, Bible Christians 7, Canada Presbyterians 251.

Funds are being sought from all teachers, pupils, inspectors and trustees to erect a monument or some other form of esteem in memory of the late Rev. Dr. Ryerson, founder of the Educational System in Ontario.

Acton's Centenarian, Mr. Angus McDonald, has died at the age of 105. He immigrated to Canada in 1832.