

# The Acton Free Press

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Business and Editorial Office

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## We need it

We had hoped with the "liberal" thinking about rail transportation we heard emanated from federal transport minister Lloyd Axworthy's office that the committee interested in getting VIA Rail to stop in Acton would get a sympathetic and just hearing. But we hear the same old excuses, the hoary old chestnuts that the Canadian Transport Commission trotted out when the short-sighted decision was made to close down the Acton station and subsequent loss of all passenger rail service.

Two representatives from VIA met with Mayor Russ Miller, Councillor Rick Bonnette, and clerk Ken Richardson, and Chamber president Steve Dawson last week to discuss the request for VIA trains to once again stop in Acton.

You know what they told the committee? Hard to believe but they said if the trains stopped in Acton it would take five minutes off the schedule.

They told the committee that Acton and district people could take a car to Guelph, board the train

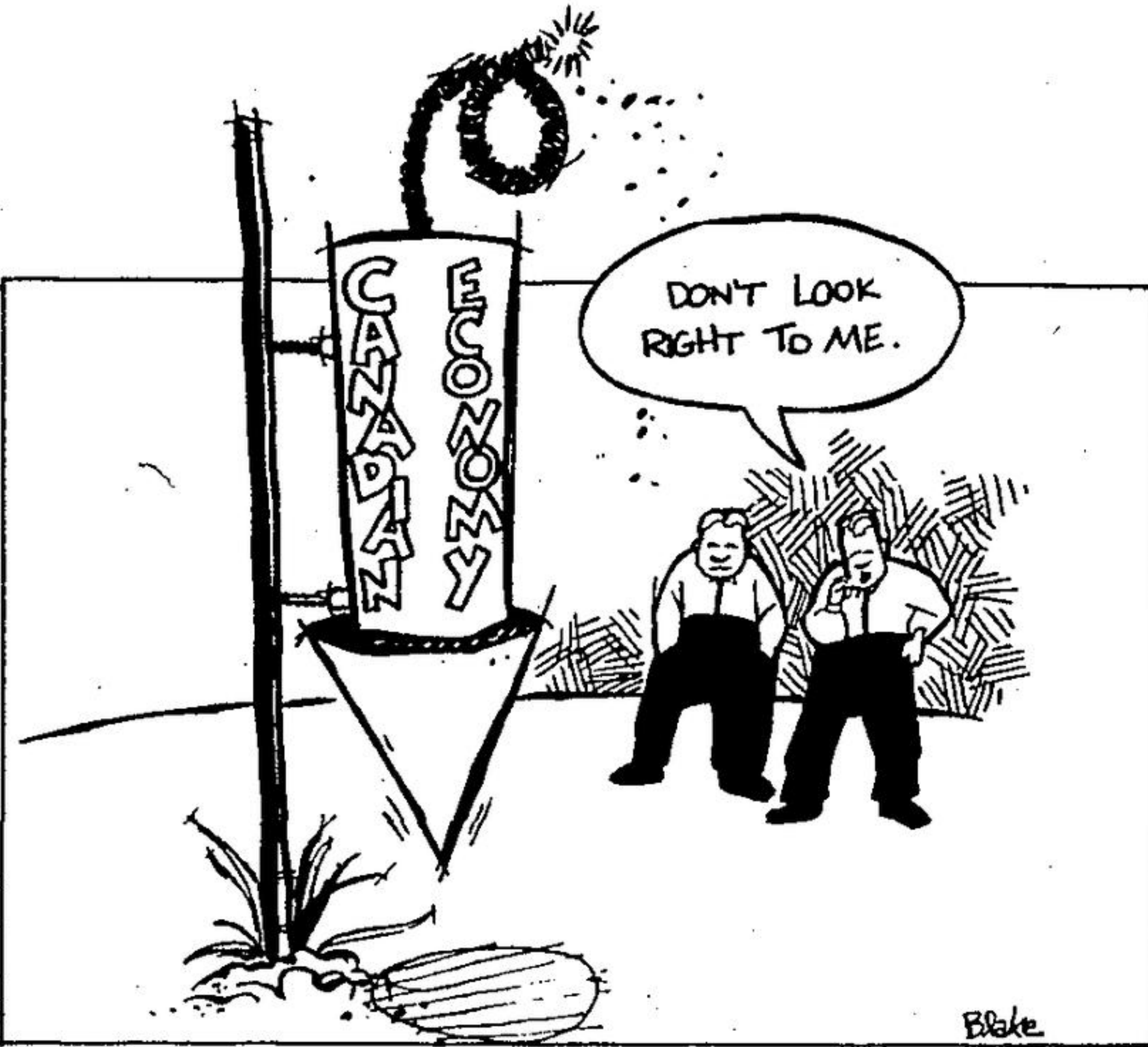
there if they wanted to use rail services. Ridiculous, drive 15 miles and then backtrack along the rails to get to Toronto.

Should take all of three hours if you can make the right connections. However, if the train stopped here one could be in downtown Toronto in about 50 to 55 minutes. We need that service here just as much as the other places along the line. We pay the same taxes and should demand the same opportunities to use the rail traffic of this country.

Thankfully, the committee is not going to let the VIA Railbureaucrats stop them. They're going to keep fighting for the trains to stop here. Good for them.

And how about our MP, Otto Jelinek? Will he help? So far we have heard nothing from him or his party to put Acton back on the rails.

Public transport is again the wave of the future with traffic clogging up the roads and gasoline costs reaching the sky. We need it. Let's have it.



## Our readers write

### I rate Pierre 'A Plus'

Oh no, I did not cry,  
As I watched him wave good-bye  
I raised my glass of rye,  
To one extra special guy.

The press was full of woes  
Everytime he thumbed his nose,  
Caught him dancing on his toes,  
Our P.M. who wore the rose.

Why, he's full of aggravation,  
Sworn, on more than one occasion,  
Was not present at the invasion,  
Not fit to lead our nation!

Now, whatever has he done?  
His last election! and he's won?

In spite of the farewell pun,  
On the pages of the Sun!

For awhile we had a swinger,  
In battle he was a winner,  
A one round, bell ringer!  
What's that? he points his finger?

He said "Canadians! get off your ass!"  
"I'm told the U.S. needs some gas!"  
"Conservatives, jumped up! in a mass,  
Reagan sent his thanks? Yes he has!"

Sure he stepped on some toes, stirred up a fuss,  
He worked round the clock, for the lot of us,  
He pleased not all, so? whoever does?  
Pierre Elliott Trudeau? I rate him A plus!

June O'Rourke.

## Help's there

Well here's one story which has a satisfying if not a happy ending.

Archie Harkins, a double amputee with limited resources, found an incredible bureaucracy out there when he tried to get assistance to get back on his feet with artificial legs.

Mr. Hawkins was a robust 63-year-old when he lost his first leg and the subsequent hospitalization ate up savings he and his wife poked away during their working years.

This year Archie lost his other leg to the same condition and it put him in an untenable financial position as well as in a wheelchair. He needed artificial legs but could find no one to assist his predicament.

Well, after Mark Holmes did a story on Archie and it was published on the front page of The Free Press results started to happen. There is help for people in his predicament. When the

right people know about it they do something.

Archie will get his artificial legs and regain some of the independence he had before the disease robbed him of his mobility.

Thanks to the organizations and individuals who maintain there is a person out there who needs help, not just a statistic and another problem.



## Group back video controls

Dear Sir,  
The following is an update on the situation concerning attempts to legislate some control over current video violence.

Responding to growing community concern, Consumer Minister, Robert Elgie last month put forward a motion which would bring videos under the Ontario Film Review Board. This has now been withdrawn due to pressure from the NDP, headed by Bob Rae. These are some points to consider on this issue:

—"There has been a shocking expansion of violent pornography in the past few years. Canada's pornography business is valued at about \$400 million annually," Toronto Mayor, Art Eggleton, The Toronto Star, March, 1984.

—"Hardcore pornography—violent, sadistic, degrading—is everywhere. "We're just saturated with the stuff," says Cpl. Ron Kirkpatrick, head of Project P." The Toronto Star, February 26, 1984.

—"In a murder case involving juveniles this month, the judge, Guy Gouard "criticized the community for its apathy and uncaring manner in not speaking out against the free flow of porn into the hands of our children." The Toronto Star, May 31, 1984.

—"There is no age requirement for

video rentals.

—"Sgt. Kenneth McKinnon and Constable Phillip (Mike) Babineau of Metro Toronto Police found these (snuff films) in Toronto's Beaches, being rented to children as young as 12. "The kids love it," one of the store owners told the two officers. . . " The Toronto Star, April 24, 1984.

—"Maniac", a video still available on the shelves in Southern Ontario is described in the Star, as being "... about a man who knifes and strangles women, slices off their scalps and puts them on mannequin heads. He then has simulated sex with the dummies. No detail is spared in the scalpcutting scenes." The Toronto Star, February 19, 1983.

—"Researchers have shown... that exposure to even a few minutes of sexually violent pornography, such as scenes of rape and other forms of sexual violence against women can lead to anti-social attitudes and behavior." Dr. Edward Donnerstein, Psychology Today, January 1984.

—"If one can sell the desirability of certain types of soap, soap and cars, one can sell the desirability of certain types of sexual behavior." Dr. Dolores Gold, Psychology Dept., Concordia University, February, 1983.

—"Video images are made even

more available through their publication in magazine format.

—"Fernand Robinson flipped the pages of rape and bondage magazines as he fondled lawyer Barbara Schlier as a prelude to stabbing her to death." The Toronto Star, April 18, 1984.

In spite of the evidence and the demands from Canadians for control over violent pornography, the fact is we are seeing nothing but delays from both the federal and provincial governments. Who is to blame? In this case, Bob Rae and the NDP have firmly aligned themselves against Dr. Elgie's amendments. They claim that individual judges would be better able to discern community standards than the already functioning and community aware Ontario Film Review Board. In taking this stance Bob Rae, civil libertarians and other monied interests put themselves in the uncomfortable position of aiding and abetting the pornographers by delaying controls.

Please support the passing of Dr. Elgie's legislation by signing the coupons in this newspaper and mailing them postage free to Dr. Robert Elgie and Mr. Bob Rae. Personal letters would be even more effective.

Yours truly,  
The Members, Citizens  
Against Violent Pornography.

### Clergy comment:

## One day we're 'hot', next day 'cold'

"Short love affair with John Turner" read a recent headline in an Ontario newspaper. One week after the election of Canada's prime minister-elect, the public's impressions were changing.

Have you ever noticed how short-lived our admirations and infatuations can be? One day we're "hot" and the next day we're "cold."

Now I happen to be a Blue Jay's fan and I'm aware of what happens to my undivided attention when the Jays fumble their way into a losing streak. When the Jays are on top the game excitement can be sharp-edged. If they're down and a batter strikes out the crowds begin to "boo" Respect for a player can vanish in seconds.

Today we can cherish a marriage and tomorrow ache for its pressures and frustrations. A job can be "the right niche" one week and the next find you immersed in disrespect for your employer. The church can provide an effective ministry for a day in the crisis life of someone and be forgotten in the ensuing days.

I've never quite figured out why women and men can be so fickle or why they change lanes so fast.

It seems to be easier to endure without the passion and love that can undergird our thoughts and actions. Maybe that's what prompted the inspiration found in the letter to the church at Ephesus: "But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first."

Thank God for love from the divine heart that is not lukewarm or fickle and that never abandons us.

Perhaps in Blue Jays' season, the up-coming federal election, and summertime life in general we can experience the gift of our God's patience and allow it to be released in us so that "love knows no limit to its endurance, no end to its trust, no fading of its hope; for it can outlast anything."

—Jean Stahs  
Acton Baptist Church

Dear Editor,  
Halton Helping Hands would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Henry Veenstra and all those individuals associated with the Christian Reformed Churches who gathered together on Saturday, June 9, to give of their time to help us out. These young people took time out from their own lives and volunteered to do a number of odd jobs (over 30 in total) for the elderly in our communities of Milton, Georgetown and Acton.

It is not the first time that Henry

Veenstra and his youth crew have come through for the elderly in these communities but it is a credit to them that as on previous occasions they performed their jobs well and without pecuniary compensation of any kind. These young people are an example that happily stands in contradiction to some recent remarks that were made in our Legislature regarding young people.

We understand that this group of young people under the guidance of Henry Veenstra will be devoting

more of their time to different communities this summer. From the numerous compliments we have received about this group and their work, Halton Helping Hands is confident that whatever community they serve their work will be received with the same enthusiasm and gratitude.

A special "thank you" to you Henry and your group from all of us here at Helping Hands and from all of those people who benefitted from your selfless service!

C. Greco,  
Halton Helping Hands.

## Back issues

10 years ago

July 3, 1974

Canadian and Acton celebrated birthdays Monday—Canada's 107th and Acton's 100th.

There were 10 Ontario Scholars at Acton High School this year. They were: Andrea Broostad, 93.8 per cent; Glen Lee, 87.2; Julia Aitken, 86.7; Susan Jamieson, 85; Louise Harmsma, 84.3; Jim McNabb, 86; Susan Shoemaker, 83; Caroline Merrin, 82.3; Bonnie Bristow, 80; and Bruce Swift, 80.

Mick Holmes, fire chief of Area 1, will soon be driving a Torino station wagon painted bright red if council okays an administration committee recommendation. Extra lights and a siren costing \$400 will be added to the \$4,160 wagon to be purchased from L and L Ford Sales, Acton.

20 years ago

Jan. 2, 1964

Charles Ke. Browne, Acton's oldest merchant and staunch Organeman, who celebrated his 94th birthday recently received his 50 year pin during a three day convention in Ottawa recently.

Acton's population is expected to increase by close to 10,000 Saturday, July 11, when Acton Loyal Orange Lodge No. 467 plays host to district Lodges during the 27th anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne.

Reeve H.H. Hinton told members of council the Town of Acton should pay for services for a proposed subdivision on land owned by R.N. Brown, Churchill Rd. N. The reeve cast the only dissenting vote during a special meeting Tuesday evening at which time council agreed not to approve subdivisions in which the cost of services is not borne by the subdivider.

50 years ago

July 5, 1834

Scholars who have passed examination and will take higher classes: Promoted to Senior Fourth: Dorothy Lazenby, Mae Roney, Rino Braido, Elmer Lasby, Douglas Smith, Nino Braido, Urano Macdonald, Leo Close, Charlie Tyler, Willis Hall, Helen Withers, Bertie Allen, Gilbert Romph, George Bayliss, George Williams, Hlen Brown, Francis Papillon, Robert Footitt and Jean MacMillan.

Promoted for Junior Fourth: Kathleen Gibbins, Jack Cooney, Marie Brunells, Dorothy Arnold, Mina Cripps, Kathleen Sweeney, Gordon McCutcheon, Harvey Lambert, Lyla Evans, Annie Molozzie, Margaret Scriven, Beverly Arnold, Irene Fryer, Isabel Crewson, William Buchanan, Ivan Vickers, Tom Watson, Doris Bliton, Allan Leishman, Olga Porty, Doroth King, Owen Masales, Frances Chisholm, Bertha Bristow, Lorne Masales, Reta Cripps, Billy Eccleshall and Lino Marzo.

75 years ago

July 1, 1909

About half past ten on Monday night a lamp exploded in the home of Mr. Jacob Frankel, over Wallace's clothing store in the Second Block and ignited the window curtains and a trunk under them. Firemen C.R. McIntosh was across the street and noticing the blaze hurried to the scene. He tore down the curtains and threw them and other blazing material out to the street. Messrs. W. Williams and Reeve Swackhamer had then arrived and the three of them soon extinguished the flames.

It is exactly a year ago today since Rev. Father Arnold arrived in Acton to succeed Rev. Father Feeney as pastor of St. Joseph's Church here. Today he leaves for Hamilton to undertake the very honorable but somewhat arduous duties of secretary to his Lordship Bishop Dowling.

100 years ago

July 3, 1884

Our natal day (Dominion Day) was very quietly observed. Those who did not grace Toronto with their presence enjoyed a pleasant day at home.

Captain Williamson is now in command of the Lord's Army here. The captain is an earnest worker and is in possession of a lengthened Christian experience.

The brick work of the new Canada Glove Works factory is completed. The painters are now engaged in tuck pointing and painting brick work.

The members of Acton Company No. 6, 20th Lorn: Rifles mustered about 50 strong to attend divine service in the Presbyterian Church last Sunday morning.

Rev. W. Bryers preached his farewell sermon last Sunday evening to a very large and attentive audience.