

# The Acton Free Press.

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Eight Home-Print Pages—Five Cents

## Acton Won Again at the Halton County Musical Festival

Now Retain the Trophy for Obtaining Most Points, Having Won Three Years in Succession — Choirs from Local School Took High Standing and Victor Bristow Won the Boys' Solo — Took Second for Boys' Duett; Second Section of Event Concluded Last Friday in Milton.

When the final results were summed up in Halton Musical Festival, which concluded at Milton last Friday, it was again found that Mrs. M. R. Moore and the accompanist, Mrs. W. Gowdy, had led the pupils of Acton School to another championship in County musical honors, and won permanent possession of the trophy donated to the festival. This was the fourth year that Acton School has carried off this honor since the festival was organized five years ago, and the third time in succession for this achievement. Naturally the citizens are quite proud of the teachers and pupils in this accomplishment. The adjudicator on this occasion complimented Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Gowdy for their work.

The results of the events conducted the previous week were given last week. The following are the awards as given for the events last Friday by the adjudicator, Mr. Peter Kennedy, of Toronto:

Girls' Open Solo — Kate Rumley, Georgetown; Anne Havill, Oakville Central; Isabel Brown, Burlington Central; Joan Moreland, Strathcona.

Boys' Open Solo — Straun Robertson, Milton; Bobby Gray, Burlington Central; Arthur Harrison, Burlington Central; Urban Girls' Solo — Peggy Moreland, Strathcona; Joan Watkins, Strathcona; Ruth Sargent, Milton.

Urban Boys' Solo — Victor Bristow, Acton; Robert Early, Georgetown; Douglas Allist, Georgetown.

Girls' Duett — Marion Williamson and Kate Rumley, Georgetown; Peggy Moreland and Diane Moreland, Strathcona; Maudie Hall and Jacqueline Fleetham, Burlington Central.

Boys' Duett — Robert Early and Harry Hale, Georgetown; Vernon Agnew and Charles Tyler, Acton; Bobby Gray and Murray Hall, Burlington Central.

Girls' Double Trio — Oakville Central, Strathcona; Burlington Central.

Piano Solo — Muriel Smith, Palermo; Elma Youngs, Milton.

2-4 Room Choir — Bronte; Strathcona; Burlington East.

40-Voice Choir — Acton; Milton, Burlington Central.

80-Voice Choir — Burlington Central; Acton; Milton.

Boys' Choir, 15-voice — Westwood, Oakville; Bronte; Strathcona, Burlington East.

Boys' Choir, 35-voice — Acton; Milton; Burlington Central.

In the choir work the success of Acton School was outstanding. They won first for a Junior Choir with Milton; first for Forty Voice Choir; and first for Boys' Choir of thirty-five voices; and second for the Sixty Voice Choir.

The individual efforts were also good, with Ethel Franklin securing a second prize for Piano Solo; Victor Bristow a first for Boy's Solo; and Vernon Agnew and Charles Tyler a second for Boys' Duett.

Acton secured 60 points to win the Festival championship.

On Friday evening a concert was given by the winners of the various events, in St. Paul's United Church, Milton, presided over by Mr. P. W. Cooke.

J. M. Denyer, Halton Public School Inspector, presented the prizes, which were—For solo, vocal and piano, and duets—Gold, silver and bronze medals, donated by the Halton Women's Institute, Home and School Clubs and the Festival Association; Girls' double trios, first, cup, Milton I. O. D. E.; second, shield, Ellis Bros.; rural choirs, first, cup, Festival Association; second, shield, Mount Union Women's Institute; Junior Mount Union, first, cup, Oakville I. O. D. E.; second, shield, Festival Association; 2-4 room choir, first, cup, T. Eaton Co.; second, shield, Bell School; boys' 15-voice choir, first, cup, Acton Public School Board; second, shield, Limestone School; 60-voice choir, first, cup, Robert Simpson Co.; second, shield, Burlington I. O. D. E.; 40-voice choir, first, cup, Milton Public School Board; second, shield, Acton I. O. D. E.; boys' 35-voice choir, first, cup, Helmtzman Co.; second, shield, Acton Women's Institute.

## SPECIAL MEETING

Of Eramosa Township Council—Contract for Crushed Gravel Awarded—Township Decides to Insure Against Road Accidents

The Council for the Township of Eramosa met at the home of Councillor J. A. Stewart on Monday evening, May 15, with all members present.

The contract for crushed gravel, to be delivered at the direction of the Road Superintendent, was let to Mr. John McLaren, of Rockwood, at 45c per yard, contractor to supply material.

On motion of Messrs. Lush and Storey, it was decided to insure the township against liability for road accidents, with Mr. W. F. McHenry of Erin, Consolidated Fire & Casualty Co., at a premium of \$150.15.

Other accounts ordered paid were: W. F. O'Brien, sheep valuator, \$2.80; and H. Billingsley, travelling, \$15.00.

## Various Interesting Items of News

### Empire Day Concert

An Empire Day Entertainment will be given by the School children in the Town Hall on Tuesday, May 23, at 8.00 p. m. Patriotic programme and numbers by the Acton winners at the Halton Musical Festival. The Daughters of the Empire will present prizes for patriotic essays and patriotic booklets to the pupils of the Public School. Silver collection.

### A Sun Halo

The circle about the sun on Monday morning caused quite a bit of speculation, as to cause and effect. Hot and cold weather, wet or dry, were the prognostications and undoubtedly some of them have been accurate. It was quite a phenomenon and many older people could not remember having witnessed such a distinct halo, about the sun. It has been explained by authorities that a sun halo is caused by the refraction of the sun's rays in the same manner that forms a rainbow. Cold weather below and warm weather above, with excessive moisture in the atmosphere, are given as the contributing factors.

### Mother's Day in the United Church

The morning service of the United Church last Sunday was a combined service of the congregation and Sunday School. The scholars used the Go-to-Sunday School pamphlets, prepared by the Ontario Religious Education Council. The Superintendent, Mr. A. T. Brown, had charge of the service. The scripture lesson was read by Mr. Norman Gibson and the Primary and Junior Classes sang a chorus. Miss Margaret Harrison read a Mother's Day story, and Miss Ruth Gibson rendered a solo. Rev. C. L. Poole, B. D., gave the address, speaking on the theme, "The Value of the Home." The choir also rendered an anthem. In the evening Rev. John Coburn, D. D., Secretary of the Department of Evangelism and Social Service of the United Church, gave an illustrated address on the work of his department throughout Canada. A male choir assisted at this service. The quartette, composed of Messrs. Simpson, Clifford, Gibson and Masales, rendered a number.

### Monthly Meeting of the Legion

Last Wednesday evening the local Legion met for the monthly session. There were several visitors present from the Posts of Zone 13, among whom were Comrades A. A. Robinson, Adjutant-Officer of Ontario; Dr. Adams, of Long Branch, Zone Commander; C. E. Drew, Zone Secretary; Col. G. Cousens, C. O. Lorne Rifles (Scottish); Col. G. Brown and Dr. Learmouth, Georgetown; Major Early and G. Bayliss, Milton; Comrades McArthur and L. C. Pope, President and Secretary of Streetsville; Col. Crawford, of the Guelph Post; and Comrades Dewey and Daby, of Rockwood. During the business of the evening, E. Barr and J. Chapman were initiated into membership. Among the correspondence was a letter from Major John Roper, Dominion President, informing the Branch that there should be no convention this year, inasmuch as the heavy demands on the finances of the Legion have made it "inadvisable." The Dominion President's letter also stated that he wished to resign from the Presidency. The Post accepted the invitation of the pastor and Deacons of the Baptist Church to attend divine service on the evening of Sunday, June 4, being the nearest Sunday to June 3, His Majesty's birthday. Details of this parade and service will be made known later. Comrade Robinson delivered a very fine address during which he gave some very useful and timely information regarding pensions. The meeting was closed and the tables set with tasty refreshments. Col. G. Brown proposed the King's health and the company settled down to listen to the Zone Commander, who was present in his official capacity, and complimented the Post upon the many fine features he had noted during the evening. Col. Cousens thanked the veterans for the interest they had taken in the local company of the Lorne Rifles (Scottish). He was glad to learn of some of the things the veterans had passed on to the youngsters and was also thankful that they had not told them some other things, which, of course, they would learn for themselves. He was an Imperial, glad to be in Canada and had made up his mind to stay here. Col. Brown complimented the Post upon having such an efficient Master of Ceremonies, J. J. Cooney, D. C. M. Comrade Arnold proposed a toast to the visitors, which was responded to with musical honors. Col. Crawford interested the gathering with a short address upon the Christian spirit which he had noticed among the members of the Legion. There were many other speakers. Service—helping the other fellow—seemed to be the note sounded throughout the evening. There was the usual get-together around the piano and some very fine harmony was brought out. The best yet, the Zone Rally, takes place this (Thursday) evening, at Port Credit. Cars leave the Post Office at 8.00 p. m.

"Are You a Mason?" May 31, Town Hall, Acton.

## Spring Repairs are Almost Completed

Local Commission Approves of All Facts Concerning Hydro Being Given to Public

At the meeting of the Acton Public Utilities Commission on Tuesday evening, Commissioners L. G. King, R. J. Kerr and Reeve Theford were present. The Superintendent reported that the repairs at the spring were nearing completion. The roadway to the spring was also being repaired.

The Secretary was, by motion, instructed to pay the following accounts:

Hydro Department	
Bell Telephone Co., services	4.32
Jas. Symon, supplies	1.95
Acton Free Press, printing, etc.	9.81
Jas. B. Chalmers, installations	7.50
C. N. R. and Transports, express	1.80
Backard Electric Co. Ltd., supplies	89.57
King & McEachern, supplies and labor	5.10
Canadian Line Materials Ltd., supplies	34.39
Rose & O'Hearn, Ltd., supplies	4.28
Jas. Gaas, inspection fees on heaters	5.00
Northern Electric Co., supplies	5.96
Canadian Rag & Metal Co., supplies	42.50
A. L. Wynston Jr. Ltd., supplies	4.18
	\$216.51

The list of arrears was checked over by the Commission.

Quotations had been received on new types of equipment that it was deemed might be secured to good advantage. The Superintendent made an explanation of these instruments and the saving that could be made by their use. No action was taken for the present.

A letter from T. J. Hannigan, of the Ontario Municipal Electric Association, was received. The letter asked for the views of the local Commission in regard to the publication of Hydro information, salaries, etc. The local Commission instructed the Secretary to reply, stating that since this utility was publicly owned they saw no reason why the public should not receive all information in regard to Hydro.

Canada's Immigration Population

The immigrant population of Canada, when the decennial census was taken in June, 1921, numbered 2,307,525. Of this total, 1,184,000 or 51.3 per cent, were from the British Isles or from the sister dominions, while those of alien origin numbered 1,123,695 or 48.7 per cent; of the latter 63.6 per cent, (714,462) were from European countries, 30.6 per cent, (344,574) were from the United States, and 60,608 or 5.4 per cent, were natives of Asiatic countries, principally China (42,037) and Japan (12,261). Immigrants of alien birth constituted 10.8 per cent of the population of Canada in 1921 compared with 5.1 per cent of the population in 1901.

## A Selection of News Items

### Institute Meeting

The Summer Meeting of the Women's Institute will be held in the Parish Hall on Monday, May 22, at 2.30. Speaker, Mrs. Hamm, of Bath.

### A Serious Procedure

Last week THE FREE PRESS received through the mails an announcement of the engagement of Miss Nellie C. Whitley and Mr. Russell Somerville, and the date of the wedding set in June. The announcement was signed "N. Whitley," apparently by a prospective bride, and accompanied by a fee for insertion. THE FREE PRESS accepted the item in good faith and made publication as requested. Later information revealed that there was absolutely no foundation for the item. We have received this week a request, signed "Nellie C. Whitley," to publish the following: "A contradiction to the Whitley and Somerville announcement, as you have been misinformed." We hold both these statements, presumably signed by Miss Whitley, who gives no reason for submitting in the first instance the erroneous notice. It is a rather serious procedure to furnish a newspaper with signed items for publication that are untrue, and we are holding the documents carefully, pending an action that may be taken by the parties or other persons.

### Conditions Must Be Met

The Toronto papers the other day carried a story telling of the collapse of Mrs. Thomas Holland, due to lack of proper food. It is said the diet of the past few weeks consisted principally of a few potatoes, carrots, and other vegetables. The relief assistance from York Township had been discontinued. Mr. and Mrs. Holland are known in Acton.

They removed from Acton last January, of their own accord, stating they were going to live with a son in Toronto, who had employment. According to the Toronto story the son was also unemployed. The Hollands were receiving assistance when they left Acton, from the local Welfare Board. When work was available last summer on neighboring farms about Acton, and he was offered employment, it is said Holland refused to work, alleging that he could secure more than the sum offered by begging. During the summer months he appeared to be absent for most of the time from Acton, but returned periodically. When relief distribution started again in the fall, Holland was the fourth applicant. That any person in this country should not have sufficient nourishment is pitiful. The case is, however, one that would have quite a few angles if it was fully investigated and checked from various points. It would appear that the means of securing a livelihood said to have been better than farming last year was not so lucrative this year. And most folks thought conditions were improving.

—Come to Stanley Park. Opening Dance on Wednesday, May 24. Martin-Ramsay seven-piece Orchestra supplying the music.

## Terrible Tragedy Enacted Yesterday in Acton Home

John Collins, in a Fit of Despondency, Attacked His Wife, Inflicting Terrible Bodily Injuries and Ended His Own Life by Stabbing — Used Instrument Fashioned by Himself and Had Apparently Premeditated the Act — Mrs. Collins Removed to Hospital and May Recover from Attack.

A tragedy which has no parallel in the history of Acton occurred yesterday morning, when John Collins attacked his wife with a knife, inflicting serious bodily injuries, and ended his life with the same weapon. The gruesome affair took place at their home on Church Street, shortly after nine o'clock. Their home is the stucco dwelling just east of the radial crossing.

Mr. and Mrs. Collins and family came to Acton about three years ago, from Guelph, and he was employed by Mr. Jas. Gilmour and recognized as a careful and efficient blacksmith. He was subject to spells of despondency and it is said during these periods was quarrelsome at home. On Tuesday it was noticed that he was despondent, and again yesterday morning it appeared that the condition was still upon him. He went to his work, however, but shortly after nine o'clock complained of a headache and said he was going uptown for a couple of pills. He immediately went home and committed the rash act.

The first intimation that anyone had of the trouble was when Mrs. Collins came running from the home, by way of the back door, screaming for help. Neighbors were attracted by her cries and came running to her assistance. Mr. Jas. Cowie, who was at work in his father's blacksmith shop on Mill Street, was among the first to reach the scene. Collins just reached the rear door of the residence, after inflicting wounds in his breast, when he collapsed in the doorway and expired immediately, falling with the knife beneath him. It would seem that he had turned to re-enter the home when he died.

Mrs. Collins was badly cut about the breast and her right arm was also slashed in the attack. She was rushed immediately to the hospital in Guelph. Examination showed that three knife wounds had been inflicted in the breast. The right arm was slashed at the wrist, and all the tendons severed and a wound inflicted in the forearm. There were marks of three blows being struck over her head by some blunt weapon. The weapon used by Collins was one that had been fashioned by himself from material he had secured seemingly an old file. It was a double edged blade of about eight inches in length and gave evidence of having just been made within a day or so.

The two sons, James and Victor, lads of about fifteen and twelve years of age, were at school, and the ordeal of coming home after the tragedy was terrible. Two other members of the family reside in Guelph, and they were immediately notified and came to the stricken home. They are Jack Collins and Mrs. J. F. Ford, of 61A Kent Street, Guelph.

Collins was a man fifty years of age, and Mrs. Collins was 48 years old. The only eye-witness to the tragedy was Mrs. John Collins, Sr., who resides with her son.

Dr. J. A. McEwen, Coroner, immediately had a jury empanelled, which viewed the remains and adjourned two weeks until the condition of Mrs. Collins is ascertained. The preliminary proceedings were dealt with at this initial investigation.

It is reported, following the examination at the hospital, that Mrs. Collins has some chance of recovery, but it will be some days before the true extent of the injuries can be ascertained and the effect upon her judged.

## Various News Items

### Prize Choir to Sing

Come out and hear the Forty-voice Prize Choir, Friday night, at 8.00 o'clock, in the United Church, when the W. C. T. U. Prizes will be presented and the Oratorical Contest given. Other programme features. Silver Collection.

### The Business Men's Social Night

The community social night arranged by the Acton Retail and Business Men's Association on Tuesday evening drew a splendid crowd from Acton and the countryside for miles around. The Town Hall was taxed to capacity to accommodate the crowd. The prizes for euchre were won by Mrs. P. Sayers, Mrs. W. J. Patterson, Mr. F. S. Blow and Mr. J. R. Ramsay. A bounteous and delightful lunch was served. This was arranged by Harold Wiles, caterer. The music for the dancing was provided by the New Harmony Orchestra, and R. L. Davidson and Ernie Packer, the floor managers. Several novelty and prize dances were given, which were enjoyed. The prize for the birthday dance was won by Miss Marguerite Currie, and her partner was Mr. Collin McNabb. The waltz prize was won by Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Talbot. Those who attended claim it was one of the most enjoyable functions of its kind held in recent times.

—Are You a Mason? May 31, Town Hall, Acton.

## HALTON PRESBYTERY

Splendid Sessions Held at Oakville — Allocation for Missionary Work Set at \$20,000 — Cent-a-Meal Plan Strengthened

The Halton Presbytery of the United Church of Canada met in St. John's United Church, Oakville, on Tuesday, May 16. The morning session was opened by the Rev. J. H. Carpenter, of Trafalgar, in an interesting devotional prayer, in which the Executive of the Presbytery of the Women's Missionary Society joined with the representatives of the Presbytery.

Rev. G. H. Knighton, of Waterdown, Chairman of the Presbytery, presided over the sessions. The morning session convened at 9.30, and was taken up with the business of the Presbytery, looking to the coming Annual Conference, to be held in Hamilton about June 1.

One of the matters of interest was the appearing of candidates for the ministry before the ministers and lay delegates of the Presbytery. There are three candidates for the ministry. But owing to the examinations at the University, only one was able to appear. John McEwen, of Georgetown, gave a very interesting talk upon his attitude and call to the Christian ministry. J. Elvin Gamble, of the Acton church, was unable to appear on account of examinations. These two promising young men will serve the church during the summer on mission fields, the former to Muskoka, and the latter at Biggar, Saskatchewan, where he supplied last year.

The work of the Missionary and Maintenance Fund was brought before the Presbytery by Mr. A. MacLaren, of Georgetown. He laid great stress upon the cent-a-meal plan for each family, as a supplement to the regular missionary gifts of the congregations, and pointed out what a decided help it would be in reaching objectives and alleviating deficits. The allocation for the Presbytery for the work of the Missionary and Maintenance Board is \$20,000; that of the local church to be \$1,550. Rev. E. O. Seymour and Mr. A. MacLaren were nominated as representatives to the Settlement Committee.

In the afternoon the ladies of the Presbytery again joined the Presbytery, and the joint meeting was addressed by Rev. Richard Roberts, of Sherbourne Street Church, Toronto. Dr. Roberts spoke of the "Glory of the Church." He declared himself as a High Churchman; that is, he had a high respect for the origin, history, mission and destiny of the church. The church is the organ of the continued presence of Christ in the world. When he said, "I am still living and dynamic in the affairs of the world, in spite of its frailties and weaknesses, which are many, the church persists, while other institutions have failed and ceased to be. The only explanation of this constant persistence was to be found in the words of Psalmist, "God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved." The speaker made it clear to all present that the church can be impressive in the world, and powerful among men, as its members grow in faith and love.

The following represented the local church: The Presbytery, Mrs. C. L. Poole and Mrs. S. J. Reid; to the Presbytery, Mr. J. H. Reed, Mr. Evan Jones and the Pastor.

Outstanding Speakers to Come to Acton

Announcement is made this week of the completion of local plans for a monster Liberal-Progressive Rally, to be held in Acton on Tuesday, May 30. These meetings will be held in the Town Hall and Gregory Theatre, and be addressed by three of the outstanding Provincial speakers of the day, Mr. M. F. Hepburn, M. P., Mr. A. Slight, K. C., Mr. A. Roebuck, K. C., and Mr. T. A. Blakelock, M. P. P. There will undoubtedly be one of the largest crowds ever assembled to hear these outstanding speakers on matters of vital importance to the electorate.

## THE EVENING MEAL DIGESTER

An old Irishman was sitting in front of his house puffing and pulling away heroically at his pipe. He would light a match and puff and pull at his pipe, then throw the match away and light another.

"Come in to dinner, Pat," said his wife at the door.

"Faith an' Oi will in a minute, Eiddy," said. "Moike has been tellin' me that if Oi smoked a bit av glass of eud see the shpots on the sun. Oi don't know whether Moike's been foolin' me or whether Oi've got hold av the wrong kind of glass."

—Come to the Baking Sale and Afternoon Tea on Saturday, May 27, in the United Church Sunday School Room, from three to six. Auxiliaries of Ladies' Aid Society.

## VICTORIA DAY MAY 24, 1933



A Linoleum Block Carving by Mr. J. K. Gardiner, Acton