

# The Acton Free Press

Sixty-Seventh Year—No. 43

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Eight Home-Print Pages—Five Cents

## County Council Approves New Bridge at Glenwilliams

### Department Highways Request Road Expenditure be Reduced by \$17,500 — Salaries of Treasurer, Clerk and Matron of House of Refuge Are Increased — Insurance Items Are Also Adjusted at Meeting Tuesday.

A meeting of Halton County Council was held in Milton last Tuesday. Following routine business the chairman of the Good Roads Committee, Mr. Norman Gilbert, opened a discussion on the Glenwilliams bridge. Whether a new bridge shall be built at the Glen has been a perennial bone of contention for some years. The present bridge has already been condemned as unsafe and, according to Mr. Gilbert, every year of its existence in recent years has won his election by promising that he would do all he could to see that the people of the Glen got a new bridge. Mr. Gilbert said the bridge certainly looked unsafe but opinions as to how long it would last differed considerably. One man at Glenwilliams said it was good for another twenty years. Another that every time he went over it, wondered if he would ever get over it again, said Mr. Gilbert. "What we have to consider at this time is whether it is good policy to construct a new bridge or shall it be put off for another year, remembering that another year it will probably cost more. The government has already cut down our grant and may do again. If we could cut down our road expenditure and still put the bridge up it might thus be done without raising the road rate. The bridge would probably cost around \$20,000."

Mr. Hillmer: "I would suggest that the Road Committee bring in a report. They know what the bridge is like, we don't know anything about it."

Mr. May: "I would suggest that the entire council go over at noon to-day and look over the bridge. And I might say I did not win my election by making any promises about a new bridge as I don't believe in making promises that I may not be able to carry out."

Mr. Craig: "I think the council is very well represented on the Road Committee and if they bring in a recommendation that a new bridge shall be built I think we shall be ready to abide by their decision."

Mr. McDonald: "Are there any government specifications as to what type of bridge shall be built on county roads?" As a result of Mr. McDonald's question the County Engineer was called in to give the necessary information and report as to his opinion of the present bridge.

Mr. Smith: "According to government regulations bridges must be constructed to carry 20-ton loads and plans must be approved by the Department, who are insisting that heavier structures are necessary so that in the event of military traffic having to be diverted it could be accommodated on all roads and by all bridges. As to the condition of the old Glenwilliams bridge, it is in worse shape than ever this year. It would, any day, be unsafe but how long it would last before collapsing I cannot say. In fact that is something no engineer could tell you but no man living could look at that bridge and say it was safe."

Mr. May still wanted counsel to view the bridge but other members were satisfied to accept Mr. Smith's pronouncement that the bridge was unsafe and asked that the Road Committee get together and bring in a recommendation regarding the matter.

Following a meeting of the Road Committee at considerable length it was recommended that a new bridge be built and the following resolution was passed:

Moved by Mr. Gilbert and seconded by Mr. Kerns: that this council go on record as approving of the construction of a new bridge at Glenwilliams to replace the present steel structure now in an unsafe condition (2) That the Department of Highways be requested to approve of this extraordinary expenditure and to pay (Continued on Page Five)

## OBSERVE NINETIETH BIRTHDAY AT HOME IN GEORGETOWN

Mrs. George Young of Georgetown, formerly of Rockwood, Ont., celebrated her 90th birthday at the home of her youngest daughter, Mrs. Malcolm McNabb on Saturday April 11th. Her family, Mr. and Mrs. John McAlpine, Edna Mills; Mr. and Mrs. Archie McNabb, Rockwood; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Young, Acton, with several grandchildren and great grand children visited with her during the week-end. One daughter, Mrs. Heber Cooke died twenty-four years ago in Sask. Her son Ronson Cooke of Brantford sent greetings but was unable to be present.

Since the passing away of her husband twenty-two years ago at Rockwood, Mrs. Young has resided near Georgetown. Her husband was a veteran of the North West Rebellion of 1870 and she values highly the medal he received in recognition of his services at that time. Mrs. Young takes a great interest in each of her 19 grandchildren and 16 great grand children. She recalls many incidents in life when people either walked or rode in wagons and when toll-gates were used on the roads.

## Yes Vote Does Not Mean we are to Have Conscription

### Hughes Cleaver in Radio Address Urges Release from Old Pledge

On Wednesday evening Hughes Cleaver, member of parliament for Halton County gave an address over the radio station CKOC, Hamilton, in support of the plebiscite on which Canadians will vote on Monday. He said that since permitted us to give the address in full as it clears up several points that are not understood.

Here however are the three concluding paragraphs:

"In conclusion I would like to answer the only real argument which I have heard against the plebiscite. We are told we should take the law in our own hands. We should break our pledge if we need to. Well, if we were Nazi minded, we would do just that. Hitler rather gloats over breaking pledges. The British people regard their word as a solemn obligation. Whether it be a pledge to supply arms to Russia or a pledge to give India constitutional rights when the war is over, the pledge will be honored. India will fight along side of us in this war on the strength of nothing but a pledge of what it will receive when the war is over.

"And so we come to you in a straight forward manner. We say that conditions have changed and we ask for your release. Now you want to know what will happen after we are released from the pledge. Will we have conscription for overseas service day after tomorrow? The answer is no. If the vote is 'yes' this will not necessarily mean that we will ever have conscription. It simply means this. You have released us from the pledge. The government is free to act in any emergency which may arise. If the time should ever come when voluntary enlistments are inadequate, if the time ever comes when we are required to move to Newfoundland or elsewhere troops raised for service in Canada, only then the government is free to act.

To have conscription for overseas service now when it is unnecessary would actually retard Canada's war effort because there are many people in Canada who still think conscription is unnecessary and are honestly opposed to it, but the time may come when it is necessary and if that time should ever come we still have it and we will all support it.

"For all of these reasons I urge that everyone who wants to win this war, whether to-day, be in opposition in favor of conscription, should vote 'Yes' on the 27th of this month."

## FIRST ACTON MAN TO RETURN FROM OVERSEAS SERVICE

Gunner Eddie Jamieson who went overseas with the first Canadian Contingent and has been in England for the past two years returned home this week. Gunner Jamieson spent some time in hospital for treatment of a stomach ailment before returning to Canada. While in Acton he is visiting with Mr. and Mrs. John Kentner and is having quite a reunion with former Acton friends.

## Fire Equipment Good and Being Made Better

About two years ago citizens generally and the Fire Brigade in particular thought they had a pretty fine fire truck and equipment and demonstrations proved that it was a good outfit and very efficient. But in using the equipment Fire Chief Gamble and the men found there were several improvements that were desirable.

They consulted council and purchased several articles were purchased. This week on one of our many meetings at the Town Hall, we found the Fire Chief and Superintendent Charlie Wilson in the fire hall surveying the handwork for which they are both largely responsible.

The new extension ladder and the other ladders carried have been placed on a rack and are carried on top of the truck rather than on the side. The searchlight of the old truck has been mounted to light up the basket and light section of the truck. A light has been placed to make the gauges readable for the operator. There are new straps to handle the hose and the whole job has been painted up and shined. These are only some of the changes that have been made to have Acton's fire fighting equipment more efficient.

There seems to be a determination that the equipment is going to be kept in condition too. We found the tool chests have some new tools for making repairs to hose. The rubber boots and coats have been numbered and lettered so that they will be used only for fire purposes.

The two years has made the good equipment better and when you see the equipment out next time we think citizens will agree that co-operation of council and Fire Brigade were well justified in the results obtained.

## SEND YOUR OLD MAGAZINES TO THE FIGHTING FORCES

Magazines are needed for the recreation and reading rooms of the Armed Forces. The Duke of Devonshire L.O.F.E. is arranging for the collection and forwarding of this material. All citizens who have magazines suitable for men are requested to give them to any public school child who will take them to the school where the collection will be shipped. The magazines should be of date not later than January and no ladies' magazines they're for fighting men.

## Messages for Mother Comes After Army Has the Job

Some months ago a certain birth notice appeared in The Free Press column "Twenty Years Ago." Last week the mother of the now young man, received a nice little booklet telling about the care and proper feeding of the baby and showing the advantage of using a certain kind of baby food. The young man has been in the army cooks for over a year and he thrived on both mother's and the army cooking for twenty years.

It appears that some folk who scan the papers for the smallest items fail to look at the headlines, and thereby waste a lot of paper and fail to get their messages about their products where they will do the most good, and twenty years too late.

## LOYALTY DAY NEXT SUNDAY'S SPECIAL UNITED CHURCH SERVICE

Several unusual features promise to make the "Loyalty Service" in the United Church next Sunday morning most attractive and impressive. A bit of the dramatic will be introduced, for instance by the "Ladies in White" who will enter with a Jewish Chest, emblematic of Rev. Mr. Forsyth's address. The children of the church school will be present with their fathers and mothers or other relatives as part of an All-the-family-in-church-together celebration, and the program will be especially bright with a children's story and children's hymn. The music promises also to be unusually attractive with two guest soloists, Jack Nicholson, baritone soloist of St. Clair United Church, Toronto, will sing the favorite "Open the Gates of the Temple," and also a duet with Miss Dorothy Eulcher. The service should attract a capacity congregation.

## Weekly War Commentary

Specially Written for The Acton Free Press by  
BY H. H. GORDON  
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Germany was the first country to talk about a spring offensive against the Russians. The Russians then talked about a spring offensive of their own. But it was the Royal Air Force which launched the first spring offensive against the Axis.

It was the R.A.F. which gave a partial answer to those who called for an offensive in 1942 and expressed dissatisfaction over Prime Minister Churchill's comment that the United Nations would be in a position for an all-out offensive until next year.

The R.A.F. offensive by itself is not enough to beat the Axis, but it is enough to soften it up, to tie up a large proportion of the Luftwaffe which might otherwise be used on the Russian front, to force the Germans to employ huge defence forces, both active and passive, and to hamper their productive effort both in their own country and others which they have occupied.

### When War is Secret

Supplementing the R.A.F. offensive are raids by commandos by combined forces and by parachutists. Many of these do not get into the papers and are not published in any way. There are far more of them than the ordinary citizen knows.

The reason for this was explained in New York the other day by Maj. R. V. Boyle, a member of the British Army staff in Washington, in a lecture before the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

Maj. Boyle said: "In War as in peace it is often a mistake to let the whole world share your secret. Once a horse has run in public sufficiently often for the racing world to know his form, there is no longer any advantage in secrecy."

Apart from the damage they do, commando raids have the effect of keeping the Germans in occupied Europe extremely jittery and they force the German command to augment garrisons, often needlessly, because they cannot tell where the next blow will be struck.

In addition they have a profoundly cheering effect on the spirit of the people of the localities in which they are staged. It is clear, though, that such operations in the air, at sea and on land are severely handicapping the enemy and could possibly lead to a full-scale invasion of Europe.

### Growing Air Power

The British bombing raids are increasing in severity. Six hundred planes were used in a powerful offensive April 17 aimed at the heart of industrial Germany. Twelve of the new Lancaster bombers had the big diesel manufacturing plant at Augsburg near Munich, as their objective. Eight reached the target and unloaded their bombs at low level and five of these returned safely after a round trip of 1,000 miles.

As the British planes shuttle across the English Channel reports indicate that "Dierre" Laval is meeting plenty of opposition in his efforts to bring about increased collaboration with Germany. Laval is distressed by many Frenchmen and plans to destroy his power are said to be underway in opposition quarters.

Laval assumes the position of "evil lawyer" of the French nation, but Admiral Jean Darlan still controls the country's armed forces. Darlan, reputed to be anti-British, may oppose all-out collaboration with Germany and in this way put the brakes on the designing Laval. The 57-year-old Marshal Petain is likely to remain in chief of state, a titular role he has held since the fall of the third republic.

## On the War Fronts

Russian forces are making the most of wintry conditions on the northern end of the Eastern Front. They reported a major victory over the Finns in the extreme north April 18 and continuing advances northwest of Moscow. Advanced Russian units have reached the approaches to Smolensk according to Stockholm dispatches received in London.

On the Burma front, British forces were fighting a stubborn rearguard action at the week-end. The Yenang-yaung oil fields fell to the Japanese, but not before some 10,000 wells were blown up by the retreating British. Chinese forces on the left flank repulsed a Japanese force attempting to cross a stream 60 miles east of Toungoo.

### Planes Raid Japan

Reports of the bombing of Japanese cities by United States planes April 16 (Continued on Page Eight)

## Where Acton Voters Will Vote Next Monday

For the purpose of recording the vote on the plebiscite Next Monday there will be six polling booths in Acton. Polls open at 8 in the morning and remain open until 8 in the evening. Results of the voting should be available within an hour or so after the polls close.

Polling Division 1 Is that section of Acton South of Mill Street and West of Willow Street and those residing in this section will vote at the Williamson Block former Bank of Nova Scotia premises, former Mill and Main Streets.

Polling Division 2 Is that section south of Mill Street and East of Willow Street. There are two booths, both in the Y.M.C.A. building for this section.

Polling Division No. 3 Is the section North of Mill Street and West of John Street. This division also has two booths, both of which are located in the Town Hall.

Polling Division 4 Is the section East of John Street and North of Mill Street and the booth is located in Mrs. J. R. Kennedy's store on Mill Street.

In the divisions with two booths the votes are divided A to L and M to Z.

For general particulars and other details concerning the voting see the announcement on Page Five of this issue of The Free Press.

## FRIENDLY CIRCLE CONCERT REPEATED WITH ADDITIONS

By special request, the "Friendly Circle" of the United Church repeated the concert of last month, on Tuesday, April 14th, the proceeds of which were used to buy War Savings Stamps for the Church. Alzina Gillson and her group convened the affair and a very good job they made of it too. There were a few very pleasant additions to the original program. The Junior School Choir under the very able direction of Miss Hilda Taylor sang "In a nest in the old apple tree," also the double trio sang "Love Divine." Another much appreciated number was a Skit by Gordon Leslie and Mansel Nelles. After "God Save the King," a war-time lunch of sandwiches and cookies was served.

## Fire Destroys Church Sheds at Erin Last Week

A disastrous fire of unknown origin completely destroyed the large sheds of Burns, Presbyterian Church at Erin Thursday and a garage owned by Nathan Delman on the property adjoining the church. The loss runs into several thousand dollars.

The blaze started between four and five o'clock in the morning and had gained considerable headway before it was noticed. The firefighters and volunteers turned in a gallant effort to keep the flames from spreading to other buildings. The sheds were in a fine state of repair having had a new roof and other improvements made a few years ago.

The Orangeville fire truck was rushed to the scene but the flames had gained too much headway for its use to be effective.

## Nassagaweva Institute Elects Officers for Year

The annual meeting of the Nassagaweva Women's Institute was held in Brookville hall on Wednesday, April 16th, with the President, Mrs. R. Elliott in the chair. It was decided that we send our old wool-to Toronto to be made into blankets. The following officers were elected for 1942:

President Mrs. R. Elliott  
1st Vice-President Mrs. L. Brownlow  
2nd Vice-President Mrs. C. Morton  
Sec.-Treas. Mrs. C. Pickett  
District Director Mrs. F. Rhinehart  
Pianist Mrs. M. Malon  
Auditors Mrs. E. Simpson, Mrs. C. Hoffernan

War Secretary Mrs. W. Henry  
War Work Committee Mrs. E. Dawson, Mrs. Wallace, Mrs. Padbury

It was decided to have our next meeting in the form of a quilting at the hall. The meeting closed by singing the National Anthem.

## Committee Formed to Get Vote Out Monday

### Three Organizations Concert Brings \$85 For War Services

Acton Town Hall was filled to capacity on Friday evening when over 400 attended the jamboree and dance put on by the Old Time Fiddlers Club of Guelph, and sponsored by the Scout Mothers, Auldbray, Haddockburn and Dublin Women's Institute.

The artists included Charlie Roe, master of ceremonies and clever musician; ten old-time fiddlers; Thomas Simpson and James Mahuffie, entertainers; Doris Butler, dancer and acrobat; Irene Fuller, yodler; bagpipers; Bob Whittle, Jim Sutherland and George Macie, Doris Raine and Mrs. Wilson were accompanists.

A draw was made for a number of articles, the main ones being a clothes hamper, won by Mrs. Wilds and a blanket by Mrs. Elliott. Other winners were E. E. Barr, Charles Thompson, Bob Kitching and Mrs. Foothill.

Mr. Wm. Middleton opened the concert with a few words of welcome. The committee are very pleased to report \$85 to be handed to the Acton and District War Service League as a result of their work. The club from Guelph, too, is to be congratulated on their splendid concert. After paying expenses the club do not take any money individually but their net proceeds are given to same War Charities. One man in Acton said it was the best concert he had heard in Canada.

## Boys Pay For Street Lights They Had Broken

Repairs ordered for utilities truck — Other items of Commission Meeting

Reeve J. M. McDonald and chairman M. Symon were present when Acton Public Utilities Commission met on Tuesday evening.

It was reported to the Commission that Chief Harrop had collected road lamps from two boys, for three street lamps, that had been broken. Others were yet to be settled for.

Accounts were passed for payment as follows:

Hydro Dept.	
Bell Telephone Co., services	5.73
Inspection Dept., fees	30.45
Federal Wire & Cable Co., wire	104.38
Acton Free Press, printing	6.21
Force Electric Products, supplies	1.43
C. N. R. and Transports	3.27
MacDonald Electric Ltd., supplies	14.82
Jas. R. Kenney Corporation, supplies	31.50
Maloney Electric Co., trans. forms	316.50
H. E. P. C. of Ontario, power \$3,502.99, less credit of \$2,501.38	941.61
Workmen's Compensation Board, payments	90.69
Ferranti Electric Ltd., trans. former	270.50
Sangamo Company Ltd., supplies	108.05
Dept. of National Revenue, sales tax	115.30
Waterworks Dept. sept. tank	26.00
	\$2,666.47

Hydro Dept. March operation 140.77

## Revee J. M. McDonald Appointed Chairman — Citizens Endorse Council's Stand to Organize and Secure Big Majority in Favor of the Plebiscite — Every Elector Urged to vote and Vote "Yes."

At a representative meeting of Acton citizens called by the council, a committee known as "The Acton Committee for a Yes Vote," was formed last Thursday evening. The groups represented at the meeting were industrial and workmen's organization heads, representative of various societies, churches, etc.

Reeve J. M. McDonald outlined the council's reason for calling the meeting. It was felt that many people did not realize the seriousness of securing not only a majority but an overwhelming majority in favor of the plebiscite. At this critical time the government's hands should not be tied and they should be free to put into operation whatever action was necessary to meet the present or future needs.

Reeve McDonald was chosen as chairman and G. A. Dills as Secretary of the meeting. There was a free discussion on the matter and after the discussion it was the unanimous decision of those present that the representatives confirm the stand of council to organize in securing a "Yes" vote on the plebiscite. It was decided to form a committee known as "The Acton Committee for a Yes" vote and officers were named as follows:

Chairman—J. M. McDonald.  
Secretary—G. A. Dills.  
Publicity Committee—W. J. Beatty, J. H. Boulton, C. E. Leatherland, J. L. Wright, Geo. Fountain, W. J. F. Oakes.  
Committee in charge of voting—Miss L. Mason, R. R. Arnold, Chas. Kirkness, Mrs. F. Wilds, J. E. Gamble, Mrs. M. M. Leitch.  
Finance Committee—R. H. Elliott, A. C. Gray, W. J. Benson.  
Executive—The Chairman, Secretary, A. Mason and the chairman of each of the committees.

Mrs. F. Wilds offered the use of the store now used as a lunch room for the use of the committee on Monday and the meeting expressed appreciation of this kind offer.

General instructions were given to the committees and each was asked to bring in a report at a meeting called for this Thursday evening at eight o'clock.

The chapters of the Daughters of the Empire arranged to distribute letters to the homes urging every voter to vote and to vote "Yes" on Monday and outlining the question and the reasons that a favorable vote was necessary.

The committees appointed have since met and plans are going forward to inform the electorate regarding the plebiscite.

## APRIL MEETING OF SCOUT MOTHERS PLAN TO ASSIST WAR EFFORT

The April meeting of the Scout Mothers was held at the home of Mrs. Fred Kenner. The President, Mrs. Spalding, opened the meeting with the "Mother's Promise."

The meeting arranged to assist two other small organizations—to raise money for the war effort.

A dainty lunch was served by the hostess at the close.

## Coming Events

Acton Parents of Meeting, 8 p.m. at the Town Hall, Friday, May 1st. Admission 25c.

St. Alban's W. A. will hold a euchre in the Parish Hall on Friday, May 1st. Lunch served. Admission 25c.

Pat Luck Suppers on United Church on Wed. April 29th. Admission 25c. Supper 6:30 p.m.

The Happy Four will hold a dance in Acton Town Hall Saturday, May 2nd. Doris Hull's Orchestra. Admission 25c. Proceeds in aid War Work 43-2

Dance in Town Hall, Acton, Friday April 24th, sponsored by the Happy Gang. Doris Hull's Orchestra. Proceeds for Smokes. Admission 35c. from 9:00-2 o'clock

Welcome to the bazaar of pupils of the school at Woodside School Friday, May 1st. Proceeds for Red Cross. 3-4-1 proceeds "The Improper Henry Proper" to be given by Litchmore Young People Lunch Dance, Admission 25c. and 10c.

## ACTON BOYS ENLISTED This Week's Register

Harold Simpson enlisted two weeks ago in the Lorne Scots for Active Service, is at present stationed in Georgetown.

Charles Hubbel has enlisted in the Lorne Scots.

Bob Louitt has joined the Lorne Scots.

## Vote on Monday and Vote "YES"