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Y.M.C.A. Reports Another Successful Year Of Progress

Membership and Scope of Work Are Broadened — Financial Balance in Surplus

Splendid reports of activities, finance and program were presented at the Annual Meeting last Friday night of Acton Y.M.C.A. Chairman E. S. Force presided and while the attendance was not nearly as large as the importance of the event warranted it proved a fine evening. Presentation of trophies was also a feature.

Mr. W. J. Beatty reported on membership, which had been maintained in spite of the loss of many young people to the community. Mr. Wm. Benson gave a review of the program carried on in the Y the past year and Mrs. Gray the supervisor, gave details and figures which showed the place that this institution holds in the lives of the young people of Acton.

Mr. M. Shroeder gave a review of the activities of the card room and Mr. C. Kirkness gave a report of the building maintenance. He paid deserved tribute to Mr. Arch. Kentner for the very efficient job he had made in looking after the caretaking of the building. The financial review by Mr. W. H. Clayton showed total receipts of \$21,462 which was an increase over that amount budgeted for by \$21,02. The total expenditures were \$21,420. While the operating balance was small it was on the right side.

Tribute was paid to Mr. Chas. Kirkness who has been a member of the Y for eight years and is this year retiring from the Board.

New directors elected to the Y Board for a term of three years were Messrs. W. J. Beatty, Thos. Jones, and R. H. Parker.

Another feature of the evening was the presentation of three fine new trophies which have been donated this year for the first time. The Heston Trophy was presented by Mr. John Cameron. It is for competition in six events and was won by Don Evans who won the medals for the high jump, shot put and potato race. The standing broad jump and hop, step and jump events were won by Doug Davidson. The trophy remains the property of the Y but the winners each year are awarded medals.

The presentations were made by the donor, Mr. John Cameron.

The Force Electric Products have offered another fine new trophy for mixed badminton doubles. Each winner gets individual silver cups each year. The winners this year were Miss Florence Salt and Gordon Beatty.

Another fine new trophy is the Baxter Laboratories trophy for the Ping-Pong players. Here too the winners get individual medals as well as temporary possession of the trophy. This year's winners were Lena Lawson and Don Force. Mr. Chas. Kirkness explained the trophies and events and Mr. G. A. Dills made the presentations to the winners.

Appreciation in a tangible way was shown to Mrs. Johnny Gray, who has so capably carried on the Y program in the absence of her husband, when she was presented with a Victory Bond. Reference to her good work in starting new classes and maintaining interest was made in all the reports and this presentation met with hearty approval by all the members and friends in the Y.

President E. S. Force in a few remarks expressed appreciation of the co-operation he had received from other members of the Board and from members. He was pleased that the program had been broadened and maintained. The influence in the community was bound to be beneficial. Again this year Mr. Force drew attention to the increase in juvenile delinquency. The Y.M.C.A. can be and is a factor in helping this serious problem but the problem can better be solved if such organizations as the Y have the support and encouragement of the parents. Mr. Force urged that we all do everything possible for these boys and girls of to-day who are the citizens of to-morrow. He expressed appreciation of the support of the press in the program in Acton.

Following the business session a social time was enjoyed under the direction of Mr. Chas. Kirkness. There was dancing and cards.

Weekly War Commentary

Specialty Written for The Acton Free Press BY GUY REDDADE Canadian Press Staff Writer

Dramatic events in the aerial war against the Axis last week gave sharp point to Prime Minister Churchill's suggestion to the American Congress that the experiment of bombing Germany and Italy out of the war is worth trying "no long as other measures are not excluded."

Just a few days before, the R.A.F. had carried out what apparently was the most destructive raid yet against Germany. Nineteen of Britain's big Lancasters, some flown by specially-trained Canadians, had burst the huge Eder and Mohne dams. The resultant floods destroyed power stations and communications, inundated factories and homes and sent hundreds of millions of tons of water coursing through the heart of Germany's industrial valleys.

This spectacular stroke, Mr. Churchill's suggestion and the fact that nowhere in his speech did he mention the invasion of Europe this year gave rise to immediate speculation in London and Washington as to the part the Allies' air forces are going to play against the Axis this summer.

Nearly 100,000 tons of bombs were dropped and they were looked for a heavy role—the weight of Allied attacks in North Africa grew steadily mightier; U. S. heavy bomber forces in Britain were disclosed to have been reinforced and the R.A.F. heavy bomber groups were held on the ground, apparently for rest preparatory to the major assault.

Still London observers are inclined to believe Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt have not decided to pulverize the Axis into submission entirely from the air. They pointed out that though the North African clean-up has been made

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Red Cross Needs Blood Donors from This District

Local Committee Has Been Organized With Dr. W. G. Cullen as President

A group of citizens gathered in the Acton Y.M.C.A. on Tuesday evening, May 25th, to hear Miss Mary I. Foy of the Ontario Division of the Canadian Red Cross explain the operation of the mobile units for collecting blood from volunteer donors for army use.

Miss Foy said that the system was the result of a three-cornered arrangement involving the Dominion Government, Connaught Laboratories and the Canadian Red Cross. The Red Cross work with volunteers in communities throughout the country collecting the blood. The Connaught Laboratories prepare and dry the serum and the Dominion Government pays the expenses of the project.

Many thousands of donors have volunteered throughout the Dominion as well as in other parts of the world to give the blood that is necessary if the lives of our battle-torn soldiers are to be saved. To give some idea of the magnitude of the task, Miss Foy said that it takes the blood of five donors to save the life of one wounded soldier. Believing that the citizens of Acton have no desire to fall behind the rest of the country, the meeting appointed a committee to arrange for the visit of one of these collecting units to Acton. The Red Cross will send the unit if sufficient volunteers are forthcoming to make the visit worthwhile. They ask for a minimum of 65 donors for the first visit and 90 on subsequent visits. The committee will broach you in the course of the next two weeks and every member feels that the citizens of Acton will do their bit to put this project over the top as they have done so often with others in the past.

The members of the committee are as follows: President—Dr. W. G. Cullen. Secretary—Mrs. H. O. Boyes. Convener of Doctors—Dr. W. G. Cullen. Convener of Nurses—Mrs. G. Benton. Refreshments—Mrs. J. A. Beatty. Contact Man—Mr. Charles Kirkness. Equipment for Clinic—Red Cross Work Rooms and Y's Men's Club. Reception Committee—Mrs. A. Mason; Mrs. W. H. Clayton and Mrs. A. B. McLean. Publicity—Mr. R. F. Parker.

Drainage Problems and Items on Council Agenda

Pigeon Nuisance Requires Solution—Truck Tender Not Signed Until Clarified—Indigent Patients' Account Paid Driveway Approach Among Other Items Under Discussion

At the meeting of Acton Council last evening Councillors W. J. O. Oakes, C. Kirkness, J. F. Davidson and A. Mason were present. In the absence of the Reeve, Councillor J. F. Davidson was appointed acting Reeve for the meeting.

Mr. Wm. McEnery was present and asked Council to give some attention to the drainage at his property on Main Street opposite the school lane. The water from pond backed up and was damaging the foundation. Mr. McEnery desired to rebuild the property. He felt that if the water in Fairy Lake was lowered it would improve the situation. Mr. McEnery later had Mr. Parker of the Beatty Bros. Co. attend the meeting with him. It was felt that if the ditch across Mr. McEnery's property were cleared the situation would be remedied. Mr. Parker agreed to check the water levels in Fairy Lake and to co-operate wherever possible, but felt the water level had not been raised.

Council pointed out the matter was one between Mr. McEnery and Beatty Bros. Co. The drainage from the street was open and the flooded condition was not caused from any cause under the Corporation's control.

Mr. Parker complained of the nuisance of pigeons about his property on Park Avenue. Mr. Harrop drew attention to the former ruling giving that after fourteen days the birds could be destroyed if no one objected. At that time 125 birds had been trapped, but complaint had been made and the trap had to be removed. Council agreed to leave an investigation in the hands of Chief Harrop and the Clerk, with power to arrange for a plan to lessen the nuisance.

The matter of tenders for a truck was discussed. It was pointed out that the advertisement called for a three-ton truck and the Dodge tender had been on a three-ton truck and the Ford quotation had been on a two-ton truck. The latter had been accepted by the Council. In the meantime the contract had not been signed until this point was cleared up. The matter was further left over until the next meeting, before any decision was reached.

A letter from the Toronto General Hospital was read regarding an indigent patient. The letter pointed out that the account of William Lashbrook had been paid until March and as he was still a patient this could not be carried further. Council felt that with the revenue received from the property here and the family he could not be considered an indigent. Council appreciated the full explanation given by the hospital. It was admitted that Mr. Lashbrook had been a resident of Acton. The Clerk was instructed to reply to the letter. Accounts were passed for payment as follows:

Acton Welfare, April accounts	\$4.98
Acton Welfare, May accounts	4.98
Bell Telephone Co. services	7.63
James Gardiner, labor	.70
Clarence Johnson, labor	.70
John Elce, cement maker	75.00
Treasurer Acton Y. M. C. A.	40
rent public lavatories	250.00
Elliott, Bros. supplies	40
ACF Crown Pass, advertising	14.20
	\$338.58

A letter from Mrs. B. D. Rachlin attached a receipted bill for damage to his car. This damage was caused by the approach to his driveway and he requested that Council remedy the situation so that it would not occur again. The matter was left for a decision by the insurance company. It was felt the approach could not be altered without greater danger to pedestrians or to the highway traffic.

A letter from the Garage Operators' Association expressed appreciation of the co-operation of Council in giving use of the hall in the drive in which such splendid results were secured, in the collection of scrap.

Councillor Kirkness reported that Mr. Blair was arranging to complete the repairs to the arena roof as soon as weather permitted.

Mr. Hugh Black requested permission to use the race track in the park for training horses and stable the horses at the buildings. The council pointed out that the Fall Fair had jurisdiction over the stables and felt that use of the park for this purpose would be a further hazard to the children.

Ospringe Man Accidentally Shot Tuesday Morning

(By Ospringe Correspondent)

An unfortunate accident occurred Tuesday morning when Roy Webb slipped as he was carrying a rifle and a rifle he was carrying to shoot a groundhog, went off, the bullet striking him. His cries for help were heard by neighbors in the village, who assisted him to his home. A doctor was called and he was immediately rushed to the Guelph Hospital. An X-ray showed the bullet to have entered just below the heart, narrowly missing the lung and kidney and lodged in a muscle close to the back bone. It will be a few days before this can be removed and at present he is suffering considerably. He is still in a serious condition as a result of the accident.

"SECOND LINERS" HONOR BRIDE AND GROOM OF THIS WEEK

About seventy-five neighbors and friends were present at a surprise miscellaneous shower held in Lorne School Tuesday evening in honor of the recent marriage of Sgt. Norman Wright and his bride, Mr. H. L. Davidson acted as master of ceremonies and a very interesting program included plans solo by Betty Allan, duet, Kathleen Findlay and Norman Wright; reading, Betty Allan; solo, Miss Audrey McArthur; a sing-song was enjoyed by all and the following address was read by Esther Taylor:

Dear Dot and Norman: Not "Sergeant" to-night, although we are very proud and rejoice with you in that rank. No, to-night we prefer to think of you as the two-headed witch who saving from trees and chased ferocious Indians along the Second Line Hunting Grounds. With your charming wife, we are honoring not only six feet of efficient manhood in His Majesty's uniform—but a freckle-nose ten-year-old who picked fallen tree branches to help build castles in Young's bush. We remember with tender regret the countless times when our great of honor and his savings female, underling bled and skinned; although, why, no one will ever know. Least of all, the murdered turtle.

Our gifts to-night are not only for Sergeant and Mrs. Norman Wright, but for a blonde male cherub with a merry tongue that wagged overtop. It was this same blonde cherub whose lyrical voice gave forth the most staidest Tarzan yell on the coast.

As your neighbors and friends, of the historic Second Line we wish, you and Dot every happiness that is manifest to humans in this chaotic old world. To those who are wiser and more mature, you are a symbol of youth and mirth and a fine counterpoint; these qualities are immortal. To the rest of us, your comrades in childhood fun, you are a link with years that were incredibly gay and carefree. Therefore, we bring you not only these gifts, but our respect and affection as well.

We all used to dream splendid dreams when we perched on the garage roof nibbling at stolen carrots. May they come true for you—and the little lady whom you have chosen for your life partner in all future adventures!

Yours sincerely, THE "SECOND LINERS" AND FRIENDS.

Betty and Joyce Allan entered drawing a pretty decorated wagon loaded with gifts followed by a little bride and groom, Maureen Kinross and Agnie Thoraranson. Kathleen Findlay and Norma Kentner carried a large decorated basket which was also laden with gifts. After the opening of the gifts Norman replied, thanking everyone on behalf of himself and himself. A pleasant social time was spent. A bounteous lunch was served, which was enjoyed by all.

DEDICATION OF MEMORIALS AT ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH

At the morning service 10.30 a.m. next Sunday at St. Alban's Church, the Sacrament of Holy Baptism will be administered and memorial gifts will be dedicated as follows—a font ever in solid brass in memory of the late Mrs. A. H. Bishop; an oak font ever in memory of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Holloway, the work of Mr. Sam Snow; an entrance light in memory of the late Miss Rachel Gregory, given by her sister; and a chalice and paten in memory of the late Mr. Wm. H. Smith.

THIS WEEK

Specialty Written for The Acton Free Press BY J. C. SCOTT Canadian Press Staff Writer

A general provincial election will be held in Ontario this summer if Canadian troops don't go into offensive action before the election writ is issued.

Premier Nixon made that statement soon after his elevation to the premiership but he said he was disappointed that preparations for the taking of the soldiers' vote overseas were not more advanced.

Through a 1942 Act of the Ontario legislature provision was made for distribution to Canadian troops whose homes are in Ontario of proxies on which they would designate persons entitled to cast their vote in whatever provincial ridings they were resident before they joined the armed forces.

Arranging Proxies Mr. Nixon said the work of arranging for the proxies and their distribution to the overseas troops should have been started earlier. In the meantime, G. H. Ward, secretary of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in London, England, has been appointed agent of the chief election officer of the province, Maj. A. Lewis, and this task will be to distribute election forms to Ontario soldiers throughout the British Isles and supervise matters generally.

It is understood the election writ will not be issued until the soldiers' vote proxies have been returned to Canada. If by that time, the troops have not gone into action the election will be called.

Mr. Nixon said that once the election writ is issued, the election will be held despite any events that may take place overseas between the issuance of the writ and the actual election.

Food Situation Ontario's new premier has expressed concern over the province's food situation. He intimated his government may approach federal authorities with a request that farm-trained members of the armed forces stationed in Ontario be placed on the land to relieve the manpower shortage.

He said men from the armed forces could be of great assistance and expressed the belief that unless the agriculture manpower problem were solved soon "we will be scraping the bottom of the food bin by the middle of next winter."

At the same time, the provincial department of agriculture in its monthly crop report said that owing to the difficulty in obtaining satisfactory farm help, many farmers are cutting down their crop acreage to a point where they can handle it themselves without other help.

FAIRVIEW CEMETERY GIVEN GROUP OF ORNAMENTAL TREES

Fairview Cemetery will be further beautified through the kindness of Mr. Wm. Bradley of the Dominion Seed House, Georgetown. He has given the Cemetery Board over a dozen flowering plum trees of a special ornamental variety which will be set out in the cemetery as soon as plans can be made for their location.

The trees have a beautiful peach colored double flower with red foliage and are a good size now. The thoughtful gift of Mr. Bradley will be appreciated by all.

PASSED AWAY FOUR WEEKS AFTER HUSBAND MRS. S. CHARTERS

Only four weeks after the death of her husband, Mrs. Ellen Pearson Charters, 76, widow of Samuel Charters, former president of the Charters Publishing Company Limited, member of Parliament and Mayor of Brampton, died in Brampton on Saturday. She had been ill only a few weeks.

Mrs. Charters was prominent in church work and various women's organizations, and was included with Mr. Charters in being awarded the King's Jubilee medal.

Born in Toronto Gore, she was the daughter of the late George and Anne Pearson and went to Brampton following her marriage. Six years ago Mr. and Mrs. Charters celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. She was a member of Christ Church, Anglican, the Women's Auxiliary and the Chancel Guild, the I.O.D.E. and Queen Alexandra Chapter, L.O.B.A. Surviving are three sons, C. V. Charters, managing director of The Canadian Weekly Newspapers' Association, of Brampton; Rev. H. P. Charters, rector of St. Cyril's Church, Toronto, and R. M. Charters, manager and secretary of the Charters Publishing Company Limited, and two daughters, Mrs. L. N. McFarland and Mrs. T. E. Delaney, all of Brampton, and ten grandchildren.

Part of Loot Recovered From Acton Robbery

As a result of the co-operation of Toronto Police with Chief Harrop, 515 lbs. of the butter stolen from Acton Creamery last Wednesday night was recovered on Thursday night. Word of this was received by Chief Harrop following the round-up and further arrests are anticipated. Some of the poultry and meat were also recovered.

The thieves disposed of the butter in the city and the Toronto police arrested the two who had purchased the stolen goods. It has since been recovered by Mr. Anderson of the Acton Creamery.

In addition to the butter stolen, three crates of eggs were taken and \$44 worth of chickens and meat. Police are continuing the investigation.

Financial Report Acton Branch of Women's Institute

Acton Women's Institute had a very successful financial year. The branch raised money by collections, lunches, donations, serving hot dinners at Acton Fair and raising the booth, to the amount of \$323.46.

Amounts contributed included: \$100.00 toward supervision of Acton Park; \$100.00 to the Red Cross; \$100.00 to the Chinese Relief Fund; \$100.00 for Christmas cake; to War Service League for boxes to boys; \$37.00 to W. S. L.; \$6.00 to garden seeds to England; Remembrance Day wreath; flowers for deceased and fruit for sick; 1000 girls in uniform overseas; the branch gave money for different things in the district and shingled the booth in the park. Several quilts were made for the Aid to Russia and Mrs. Adams, through Tamblins, for overseas, also sent a layette to the same place. Knitting and sewing was done for the Red Cross and War Service League and our own donations for Russian relief in clothing was \$200.

We looked after and packed 19 large bales and had a letter the other day from Mr. J. Cross, chairman of clothing committee, Toronto, thanking us for the lovely bales of clothing. The response has been grand throughout the country. At the time of writing there had been shipped 21 car loads of clothing to Russia. The branch took this opportunity of thanking everyone who gave to make up those bales for the noble Russians.

Nearly \$7,000 Administered By War Service League

Donations made to Navy League and Other Funds at Meeting on Thursday

Amounts reported received at the fortnightly meeting of Acton and Vicinity War Service League last Thursday evening were from the Bannockburn and Dublin Women's Institutes and Scout Mothers' Auxiliary of \$49.10. This was the route of the Old Time Fiddlers' concert. In the report of this event in The Free Press, the Bannockburn Institute was inadvertently omitted. The three organizations named above were responsible for this fine effort.

Lakoslo Chapter of the I.O.D.E. gave in \$54.50 with the designation that \$25 be given the Navy League and the balance of \$29.50 go to general relief funds. The salvage returns for April were given as \$167.91. This department continues to be a steady source of income to keep the activities going. The balance of \$63.95 from The Free Press Chinese Relief Fund was also cleared through the league to central headquarters in Toronto.

The Acton branch of the Navy League was given another amount of \$50 to go toward the purchase of clothing for the men of the Merchant Marine. The only other amount passed was an item of \$5.00 for stamps.

In connection with the salvage work Mr. W. J. O. Oakes was given a hearty vote of thanks for the assistance he had given to Mr. Lowrie. It was also decided to build a new box to store the glass secured from the Baxter Laboratories each month. This would need to be double the size of the present box.

The list of those who had agreed to help at the salvage rooms was now completed. It was arranged that a new list was to be compiled so that the work would carry on without interruption. Total amount administered by the Acton and Vicinity War Service League since its organization less than two years ago has been \$8,846.97.

Halton Member Answers Critics On War Expenditure

Address in House of Commons Tells of Opposition Members Non-Attendance at Meetings

Last Thursday the member for Halton, Mr. Hughes Cleaver, addressed the House of Commons and in view of the fact that his speech drew the criticism of a section of the daily press we were interested in reading the complete report in Hansard. We wish it were possible to reproduce what part of the debate in full, but space will not permit this.

Mr. Cleaver was speaking on the debate centred around the expenditures of the Wartime Information Board. Mr. Cleaver is chairman of the War Expenditure Committee.

Mr. Hughes Cleaver (Halton): Mr. Speaker, I intend to follow rather closely the arguments which have been advanced by the hon. member for Lake Centre (Mr. Diefenbaker), who has just taken his seat. But before doing so there is a general question which came to my mind when this barrage or attack opened yesterday afternoon. I ask the question on the floor of the house. All hon. members know that the office of the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) is the one responsible for the wartime information board. We all know the Prime Minister is absent in Washington on very important duties, and I just wonder why the Tory strategists should choose this as the opportunity to launch a bitter and vicious attack upon the expenditures of the wartime information board.

Some hon. members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Cleaver: Oh, just be patient. My memory went back to some months ago when, in the British House of Commons during the absence of Mr. Churchill, a staidly attempt was made to stab him in the back. I remember too the well-deserved rebuke the British House of Commons gave to that performance. And, Mr. Speaker, I prophesy the present performance will suffer the same deserved fate. I cannot, within the rules of this house, state that this is a deliberate attempt to stab the Prime Minister in the back; but I can say this, that I do not believe in Santa Claus, nor do I believe in coincidence. And before I forget, it will be recalled that yesterday the general leader of the opposition (Mr. Gwynedd) offered gratuitously a great amount of advice to the government. May I tender a bit of advice to him, and it is this: I suggest that if he wishes to raise the esteem of the Progressive Conservative party in the minds of the Canadian people, he should fire its present board of planning strategists and appoint a board of strategy whose sole and only purpose will be an honest-to-God effort to win this war.

Obviously the present amendment was purposely timed because it has nothing to do with the motion. The motion was only the routine motion to permit the committee to have its proceedings printed, and to sit while the house is sitting. Then comes a substantive motion in the form of an amendment—and while the Prime Minister is absent, I do not think much of that kind of courage. In addition.

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FRIENDS HONOR MRS. B. CORLESS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE

On Tuesday friends gathered at the home of Mrs. Stanley Norton to honor Mrs. Ben Corless prior to her leaving Acton. A basket of gifts was presented to the guest of honor. Although taken by surprise, Mrs. Corless thanked her friends and assured them she would always have pleasant memories of Acton. The hostess served a dainty luncheon to her guests.

Coming Events

Announcements of Meetings, Concerts or Other Events, under this heading, are charged, 5 cents per line, with a minimum charge for any announcement of 25c.

Dance Wednesday at Edgewood Park. At Watson in old and modern. Saturday night, Gibson-Boyd, 48-2.

Spring Rummage Sale in Council Chamber Saturday, May 29th, from 3 to 6 by Knox Y.W.A. Tea will be served.

"My Sister Ellen," one of the screen's best pictures will be featured Monday May 31st at the Gregory Theatre here. The Duke of Devonshire I.O.D.E. are sponsoring this event. Matinee at 4.15.

ACTON BOYS ENLISTED

AC2 Ken Fryer has joined the R.C. A.F. and is now stationed at No. 5 Manning Depot at Lachine, Quebec. Mr. Ted Harrop of Guelph has joined the R.C.N. and is stationed in British Columbia.