

# The Acton Free Press.

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## Musical Presentation by Local Group is Outstanding

"Soup Stock" with its cast of twenty-five and orchestra is playing to big audiences—Songs have variety and show in one of best local events ever seen here—Mr. R. R. Parker directed and planned this feature.

Two months of practise and rehearsal, many long hours of getting materials ready and costumes ready were partially culminated in the first presentation last night of "Soup Stock", the four act musical comedy presented by an all local cast under the direction of Mr. R. R. Parker. The first night audience was a good one. As a matter of fact, the seat sale has been a record surpassing that of the 1943 Victory Minstrels. 200 general seats are available each night.

And the cash customers were not disappointed with their admission which goes to the Acton and Vicinity War Service League. The presentation this year of the local group is something entirely different from anything in our recollection ever attempted locally. The script was written and arranged by Mr. Parker, who also did all the directing and instruction and incidentally when the hall lights burned on Tuesday night until after midnight it was the same director with some of the members of the group putting the stage fittings and scenery in place.

In spite of all this, "Soup Stock" is certainly no one-man show. There are over twenty-five in the show in addition to the back-stage and other helpers. It's the story of Horatio P. Jones who gets swindled by a slick mining stock salesman, J. Hemingway Baxter. The laziness and lack of energy of Mr. Jones and the industry of his wife, family and sister-in-law in keeping the home together and finally recovering the family standing and Mr. Jones in the business world provide the story and the opening for the 25 song and dance numbers that are woven into the entertainment. Bits of old popular songs from "Everybody Works But Father" to hits from High Jinks and the musical opera all find an adaptation and a place in the program.

The show is about a three hour presentation and is directed by Mr. Parker, the key board with Mr. A. Mason, C. Landsborough and R. Speltz and Ray Agnew supplying the orchestra accompaniments. "Soup Stock" is one of the local events that will be held as outstanding not only this year but for years to come. This week it's the talk of the town and country.

Cast of characters is as follows:

Horatio P. Jones—J. S. Lorne.  
Mrs. Jones—Mrs. A. W. Fosbury.  
Miss Mary Jones—Mrs. G. Riddall.  
Miss Anne Delaney, sister of Mrs. Jones—Mrs. W. J. Beatty.  
J. Hemingway Baxter, lives by his wits—Geo. W. Mason.  
William Smith, friend of the Smiths—Eldon Lambert.  
Parks, butler to the Smiths—J. Whittham.  
Colossus, colored servant of the Smiths—J. Greer.

Girls of the chorus—Margaret Toogood, Shirley Ross, Margaret McPhail, Lois Dawkins, Doris Wilson, Betty Gibson, Dorothy Mellor.  
Men of the chorus—W. Benson, C. Kirkness, A. Mann, G. Musselle, W. Burton, D. Priestley.

Song numbers include the opening "Super Soup Stock" by the entire company; "Nothing for Nothing" by Joe Whittham; "Man Who Breaks the Bank at Monte Carlo" song and dance by George Mason; "Wedding Rings" by Mrs. Riddall and the girls group; "Crisp Girl Boon"; song and dance by the entire company; "I Want a Girl" by Geo. Musselle and the men's chorus; "I'm More to be Pitted" by Sid Lorne and the company; "Everybody Works But Father" by Mrs. Fosbury, Mrs. Beatty and Mrs. Riddall; "Wait Till the Sun Shines" by Sid Lorne, Mrs. Fosbury and Eldon Lambert.

Joe Whittham's second number is "Any Old Place is Home Sweet Home" and Jack Grier's number "Working in the Kitchen". Mrs. Riddall, Eldon Lambert and the chorus sing "If You Were the Only Girl". The quartette of girls sing an encore, "Who were you with?", catchy and pretty. "His Second Childhood" is one of Mrs. Fosbury's solos and "I'd Believe in You" perhaps two of the most difficult numbers on the program. Another duet by Mrs. Riddall and Eldon Lambert is entitled "We Live Uptown".

The "Dances of the Years" with Mrs. Beatty, Mrs. Fosbury and Mrs. Riddall and the girls is another fine number. "Silver Ball" and "Moonlight Bay" are two numbers that give

## St. Alban's Guild Hears Reports and Elects Officers

The January meeting of St. Alban's Guild was held at the home of Mrs. E. Footitt. Being the first meeting of the year the following officers were elected for 1944.

President—Mrs. C. Nellis.  
Vice-President—Mrs. F. Jones.  
Secretary—Mrs. B. Anderson.  
Treasurer—Mrs. G. Currie.  
Assistant Treasurer—Mrs. P. Dolphin.  
Social Convener—Mrs. H. Matlock and Mrs. N. Morton.

Mrs. H. Ware reported \$106.00 cleared in the New Year's Eve dance which is to be divided in half for the War Service League and the British War Victim's Fund. The treasurer reported the Christmas boxes for two families were sent leaving cash on hand of \$37.95 and balance in the bank of \$171.71.

It was decided to hold a euchre a month the same as last year.

The meeting was then closed with the Miraph benediction after which a social hour was spent and a dainty lunch was served by the hostess.

## Eramosa Council Starts Sixth Term Without a Change

By-Laws, Wage Rates, Snow Plowing Arrangements and Many Matters at Inaugural Meeting

The council elect for the Township of Eramosa met in the Town Hall, Rockwood at 1.30 on January 10th, 1944.

The Clerk reported that Messrs D. D. Gray, Reeve; E. H. Benham, Wm. J. Pinkney; Roy I. Leslie and Jos. R. Rutherford, Councillors; were elected by acclamation as the Council for 1944.

This was the sixth consecutive election for this council as a whole; having subscribed to the oath of office, these gentlemen took their seats as the Council of 1944.

Rev. John Ward, of Rockwood United Church, opened the proceedings with a Scripture reading, a short address and prayers for His Majesty the King; for the Dominion of Canada and for the municipality.

By-law No. 1 was passed re-appointing all the officials for the year 1944.

By-law No. 2 provided that all School Section and Police Village regulations be made in the prescribed form on or before March 1st, 1944.

By-law No. 3 requested the Dept. of Highways to approve an expenditure on roads for 1944, not exceeding \$10,000.00.

By-law No. 4 authorized the Reeve and Treasurer to borrow from The Royal Bank up to \$20,000.00 as required.

Moved by Rutherford and Benham and carried: That the council confirm the loan of \$6,000.00 carried over from 1943.

Mr. Arch. McNabb presented an interim report of the Auditors for the year 1943, which was accepted on motion of Leslie and Pinkney.

A deputation of ratepayers from the Township of Erin waited on the council to request that the Eramosa snowplow cover some of Erin Township roads. Council declined the proposal owing to the heavy millage to be covered in Eramosa and probable reciprocal agreements with the County of Wellington and the Township of Guelph.

On motion of Benham and Leslie, the Treasurer's bond was accepted as satisfactory.

On motion of Pinkney and Leslie, the Maintainer and Snowplow was insured with The General Assurance Co.

Moved by Leslie and Benham and carried: That the Reeve and Clerk apply for the 50% subsidy on \$19,403 spent on roads in 1943.

The rates for patrolmen were fixed at 40c per hour, and a man with a team at 60c per hour.

Several matters left over until the February meeting included the question of municipal health measures, brought up by the Federation of Agriculture; Post-war planning suggested by the Department of Highways and letters from the Good Roads Association and the Ontario Municipal Association.

Accounts amounting to \$710.06 were passed for payment and Council adjourned to February 14th, at 1.50 p.m.

## JANUARY MEETING OF ACTON INSTITUTE TRIBUTE TO MRS. GAMBLE

The January meeting of the Women's Institute was held on Thursday at the home of Mrs. Wikkerspin. The president was in charge of the meeting.

Following the opening ode and prayer a period of silent meditation was held in memory of Mrs. Gamble, who had been such a faithful member and her passing was sorely felt by the members.

The motto was taken by Mrs. Geo. Lazebny and was entitled "A Welcome to the New Year." Current events were reviewed by Mrs. E. Lambert.

During the business period an appeal to send good warm, second-hand clothing for the Russian relief was received. It was reported that several articles had already been brought in and a committee was appointed to pack and take charge of sending same.

It was decided to continue the weekly euchre parties as this was helping along in the financial part of our work. Three members offered their home for the month of January.

Mrs. Lazebny conducted a contest "A Bouquet of Flowers" and was won by Mrs. F. Anderson. The meeting closed with the National Anthem and a social time followed. The committee included Mrs. Earl Lamber, Mrs. VanNorman, Mrs. Pappin and Mrs. Marchant.

## 400 Attend the Leadership Courses Held at O. A. C.

The outstanding feature of the O. A. C. Short Course in Co-operation and Leadership was the interest and participation taken in subjects discussed there. Opinions were expressed freely and speakers were kept busy answering questions. When the course was over, it was felt a much better informed group of young people would return to their homes in all parts of Ontario to pass on what they had learned.

The purpose of the course was to encourage co-operation in the broad sense of the word, in both production and marketing of farm products and to discuss how living conditions in general on the farm could be improved.

Considerable time was spent on the discussion of education for both children and adults. It was felt we should have fewer and larger schools with better equipment, agriculture does not feature enough in our present curriculum particularly in Secondary and High Schools. The use of schools as community centres for adult education was stressed. Modern inventions, such as the motion picture, the radio and the automobile have made good programs available to any group. It was thought that group discussion was the best way to solidify farm opinion and make it an organized effort to work improvement.

The progress of co-operative enterprise both at home and abroad was reviewed. It was felt that co-operatives are no longer an experiment. On the other hand it was pointed out that co-operation involving the handling of large sums of money or goods should not be attempted without a thorough study of the situation in hand. The British Columbia Milk Producers Co-operative which owns its own processing plants and supplies 70 per cent. of Vancouver milk is an outstanding example of co-operative ownership and marketing in Canada.

Credit unions were discussed—motion pictures of a credit union were shown. Some idea of the gathering strength of credit unions may be gained from the fact that in Quebec this system now prevails.

Alex. McKinney, Ontario President of the Federation of Agriculture, explained the growth and purpose of that organization. He said farm forms (small discussion groups) are the backbone of the Federation of Agriculture. The Federation of Agriculture has been instrumental in obtaining much of the legislation that has benefited the farmer, such as grain, hog and milk subsidies, high priorities on farm labor etc., and is now trying to organize a pork producer's union to raise the price of hogs in proportion to feed sufficient to insure an adequate supply to Britain.

Of the 400 that attended the Short Course, 100 took the course on Co-operation and Community Leadership. Edna Aitken and Gordon Leslie went, as delegates from the Acton Junior Institute and Junior Farmers.

Bessie Reed took the course in Horticulture and Elwood Johnston took the course in Farm Mechanics. About 35 girls took one of these courses, among these was Miss Agnes McPhail, M. P. P.

## Two Acton Men Reported Wounded in War in Italy

Pte. J. D. Graham and Pte. Geo. H. Lazebny are listed and Relatives Notified

Mr. J. D. Graham's first intimation that her husband had been wounded in Italy was the casualty list published last Friday. It is believed that the telegram to her went to a former address in Hamilton. This week Mrs. Graham received a letter from him stating he had sustained injuries to his back and arm and was in hospital, but he expected to soon be in action again.

Pte. John Graham is 26 and is the son of Mrs. Graham and the late Mr. Graham of Georgetown. He enlisted in 1911 and trained for a short time before going overseas in June the same year with the Lorne Scots, later transferring to the Saskatchewan Light Infantry. Mrs. Graham who before marriage was Miss Edna Macpherson and her family reside in Acton.

On Friday Mrs. Graham received a parcel of souvenirs from Italy which she had sent home. Among these was a copy of Walt Disney's "La Cicala e il Formiche"; a rosary given him by an Italian soldier and which the soldier had told him would bring him good luck. There was also a piece of tapestry and a scarf with a fancy pin. The articles have been seen in view in the Fox Plaza window.

Pte. Geo. Lazebny was wounded in Italy on December 28th. He has been overseas for three years, arriving on New Year's eve 1940.

The telegram stated the nature and extent of the wounds was not yet available, but that later word would be sent as soon as possible. It is to be hoped that good word may soon be received from these men by their relatives here.

## Inaugural Meeting of Nassagaweya Council Monday

Appointments Made and By-Laws Passed—Reports are Also Presented

Nassagaweya Township Council met on January 10th, 1944 as per by-law composed of the following personnel: Reeve Mr. A. Near; Councillors, Mr. Lloyd Crawford, Mr. J. E. Ellenton, Mr. John Robertson and Mr. W. M. Vansickle. After each member had subscribed to the usual declaration of office they began conducting the business of the Council of the Township of Nassagaweya for the coming year.

The first order of business conducted was the reading of minutes of the December 15th, 1943 meeting, which were adopted as read on motion of Messrs. Robertson and Ellenton.

The following accounts were then ordered paid by the Treasurer: Hospital accounts for the year \$ 28.29; Relief accounts 55.16; Board of Health 116.00; Printing 91.72; Grants 40.00; Membership fees to Associations 10.00; Road Supt. Vouchers 85.71; Miscellaneous accounts 8.00.

Mr. E. Ellenton was appointed a delegate to the Convention of Ontario Rural Municipalities and Mr. J. Robertson and S. Fulton delegates to the Good Roads Convention.

The Clerk was authorized to subscribe for ten copies of the Municipal World for the use of members of the Council and officials of the Township. The Reeve and Clerk were instructed to petition the Department of Highways for the usual grant on the amount expended on roads during the year 1943.

By-laws were passed appointing the usual Township Officials; also making the estimate which will be spent on Roads and Bridges for the coming year.

The Chairman of the Local Board of Health, Mr. Near, presented the report of the Board of Health for the past year to the Council, which met with favorable approval.

Council then adjourned to meet on January 1st, 1944 at 1.30 p.m. or at the call of the Reeve.

Two farm hands in Scotland wanted a holiday, and one of them approached their "dour" employer. "Hoops," said the farmer, "a holiday! Why it's no many weeks since ye had the two minutes absence."

## ANNUAL MEETING OF W.M.S. SOCIETY HELD ON TUESDAY

The regular monthly meeting of the Women's Missionary Society of the United Church was held in the Sunday School room on Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. Caldwell presiding.

The devotional period was taken by Mrs. A. T. Brown and Miss M. Z. Bennett.

The annual reports were presented and a very satisfactory year had been enjoyed. The cards and letters were sent to shut-ins and letters to bereaved homes.

Mrs. Caldwell spoke very highly on the life of Mrs. C. C. Speight and the removal by death of the oldest member of the Society and also for the homes in town where their loved ones had passed away. Mrs. H. Mowat read the program of the book for the year "For All of Life." Three were made life members the past year.

## JUNIOR FARMERS GROUPS HEAR REPORTS ON SHORT COURSES

The first meeting of the Junior Farmers and Junior Institute was held in Lorne School on January 6. Some of the members reported on the Short Course which they attended in Guelph. Beside Reed gave a very interesting account on Horticulture to the girls, while Elwood Johnston led a discussion among the boys on Mechanics, including the use of explosives on the farm.

At the joint meeting Edna Aitken spoke on Community Organization and Gordon Leslie gave a summary of the Short Course.

Lunch was served and games, led by Margaret McPhail, were enjoyed by all for the remainder of the evening.

## MRS. HEVERAN HOSTESS FOR MEETING OF BAPTIST CHURCH

The members of the B. Y. P. U. met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Heveran on Tuesday evening. The chairman had charge of the business discussion and Mr. Wilmer Fryer arranged the program. Wilmer Fryer read the scripture lesson followed by prayer led by Len Atkinson. Mrs. C. Lincoln gave a reading and Edna Fryer gave the topic for the evening, The Christmas Race. Mrs. J. Heveran gave a reading. A hymn and closing prayer by Mrs. Lindborough concluded the program.

The hostess and her assistants served a delicious lunch and a social hour followed. A vote of thanks was extended the Heverans for a most enjoyable evening.

## THE CLEMENT-McPHAIL CHURCH WEDDING AT CAMPBELLVILLE

St. David's Presbyterian Church, Campbellville, was the scene of a lovely wedding solemnized on Wednesday afternoon, December 30th, at two o'clock, when Helen Margaret, daughter of Mr. Peter McPhail and the late Peter McPhail of Campbellville, became the bride of Chief Petty Officer W. H. Clement, R.C.N.V.R., of Milton, son of Mrs. H. W. Clement and the late Henry Clement, of Milton.

The Rev. J. C. McNeill of Campbellville, officiated at the ceremony performed amid a winter setting of tall evergreen trees, sprayed white, forming an arch around the front of the church. Blue lights and the traditional white bells decorated the trees. Pink and white chrysanthemums were in profusion.

The bride was lovely in a bluish satin gown with tight fitting bodice buttoned to the waist, with full bouffant skirt. The sweetheart neckline was scalloped with tulle ruffling. Her veil of illusion net fell from a tiny Juliet cap of net rimmed with crystal sequins. Her flowers were white roses and orchids.

Miss Lois Easterbrook attended the bride in pale blue ensemble of fall taffeta with tiny Dutch cap trimmed with pale blue sequins and nail heads, in flower design. She carried pale pink roses.

Mr. Neil McPhail, Campbellville, brother of the bride, was best man. The ushers were Mr. Kenneth Rofery Guelph, nephew of the groom, and Mr. Murray McPhail of Campbellville, cousin of the bride, sang "I'll Walk Beside You." The reception immediately followed the ceremony in the Y.W.C.A. Common Room in town. The bride's mother received in a mission blue crepe suit with a corsage of red roses and black accessories, and the groom's mother chose a blue crepe frock with black accessories and a corsage of red roses.

For travelling the bride donned a coral red two piece suit with sable coat and brown accessories. Guests were present from Milton, Brantford, Toronto, Georgetown, and Campbellville.

## Fire Brigade Requests Grant Increased to \$500

### County Federation Endorses Resolution Re Liquor Store

At the convention of the Halton County Temperance Federation, which was held in the Sunday School room of the United Church, Milton, Monday, January 10th the following resolution, which had been sent to the County Council was brought before the meeting.

"The executive of the Halton County Temperance Federation deeply regrets the action of the Halton County Council in recommending to the Liquor Control Board that a liquor store be established at Milton, and we heartily disagree with this action and we wish to make protest."

The resolution was accepted by the Convention which moved that it be sent to the Liquor Control Board with a covering letter calling the attention of the Board to the fact that the members of the 1943 County Council in passing their resolution re liquor store in Milton were only expressing their own personal opinions, and not the feeling of the people of Halton County as a whole as this question of a liquor store was not an issue when Council was elected.

The County was well represented at this meeting, and the present situation was thoroughly discussed. Mr. Whitman of the Toronto office of the Temperance Federation helped in the discussions. At the end of the business, a vote of thanks was given the officials of the church for the use of the Sunday school room, and Rev. J. B. Moore closed the meeting with prayer.

## Superintendent of Esqueusing Roads Has Resigned

1943 Taxes Uncollected in the Township Reported Less Than \$8,000

The inaugural meeting of Esqueusing Township Council was held at 11 o'clock on Monday. C. Howard May, Reeve; G. Wesley Murray, Deputy Reeve; George E. Clavo, George Currie and Wm. A. Wilson, Councillors. Minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

Accounts passed for payment were: H.E.P.C., Brampton, \$3.36; Bell Telephone Co., \$7.10; Board of Hydro Commissioners, Georgetown, \$71.50; R. J. Lovell Co., supplies, \$45.27; I. M. Bennett, writing Old Age Pensions for 1943, \$10.00; Ontario Good Roads Association fee, \$5.00; Salvation Army, grant \$10.00; H. Robertson, stamps, \$7.00; Postmaster, Georgetown, box rent, \$2.00.

Sheep claims paid were Dan Allan \$10 for destroying 2 dogs killed while in act of worrying sheep; Thos. B. Douglas, sheep-killed and 1—sheep injured, \$25.00; Spencer Wilson, valuator, \$2.00.

Road accounts of \$475.10 were also paid and a relief account of \$21.13. The Council will apply for a subsidy on \$19,571.89 under the provisions of the Highway Improvement Act.

J. Sanford, Tax Collector, reported the amount of 1943 taxes outstanding to be less than \$8,000.

J. H. Bingham was appointed by-law as a member of the Board of Health and another by-law appointed William Campbell as Weed Inspector.

Assessors were also appointed with Cecil Chisholm for Wards 1, 2 and 3 and Arthur W. Benton for Wards 4, 5 and 6.

Another by-law passed empowered the Reeve and Treasurer to borrow up to \$50,000 to meet current ordinary expenditure.

By motion the Council accepted the resignation of Harry Robertson as Road Superintendent for the Township.

Council adjourned to meet again on Monday, February 7th, at 2 p.m. or at the call of the Reeve.

## Skating Schedule Arranged for Open Air Rink—Mr. S. Mackenzie Asks Change in the Building By-Law—Committees Named for the Year—Tax Arrears are Lowest in History

Councillors Oakes and Boulton were present last night when Acton Council met in regular session and Reeve J. M. McDonald presided. Owing to the fact that all other rooms in the hall were occupied by the presentation of the cast for the local musical comedy the Council meeting was held in Chief Harrop's office.

A delegation from the Acton Fire Brigade pointed out to Council that in comparison with other municipalities in Halton the grant to Acton Brigade was much lower. Mr. E. Dawkins was spokesman for the delegation and requested that the grant be made \$500 a year.

Council requested information on how the grant was handled and pointed out that their understanding was that it was a volunteer brigade and not a paid brigade. The division of the grant and other money was explained. Council requested that the matter be deferred until there was a meeting of all members of Council. The list of requirements of the Brigade was left until Council committees were appointed for the year.

Mr. Douglas Dawkins requested information regarding the building by-law in regard to building chimneys on properties now erected.

Mr. S. Mackenzie was present to discuss with Council the proposed building by-law as it affected the contractors in town. Mr. Kentner of the Georgetown Lumber Co. and Mr. Mackenzie had discussed the by-law and asked clarification and changes of certain parts of the by-law. These clauses were discussed for an hour and a half. Notation was made of the changes and Reeve McDonald felt that the builders should have come to Council sooner as the by-law has been under consideration for two years and changes at this date were difficult after approval had been secured from various departments. No action was taken until all the Council could be present.

Committees were named for 1944 as follows: Finance Committee—A. Mason and J. H. Boulton. Streets and Walks Committee—W. J. O. Oakes and A. Mason. Fire, Light and Property—J. H. Boulton and C. L. Kirkness. Park and Amusement—C. L. Kirkness and W. J. O. Oakes.

The Reeve is of course a member of all committees and the first named on each committee is chairman. The Clerk was instructed to send a letter of sympathy from the Council and municipal officials and the representatives of the press to Miss B. H. Speight, Treasurer, in her recent bereavement in the loss of her mother. It was arranged to have a special meeting of Council for next Wednesday evening to clear up some unfinished items.

A by-law was passed authorizing the Treasurer and the Reeve to borrow from the Bank of Montreal sums up to \$30,000 to meet current ordinary expenditures until the taxes are collected.

E. Harrop was appointed Weed Inspector for the year 1944.

The Reeve and Treasurer were authorized to pay the amount regulated by the School Board not in excess of the Board's estimates and also the debentures and interest as they may become due.

Council instructed the clerk to institute proceedings against J. Chandler for unpaid dog tax.

The list of arrears of taxes was presented. It was the best in the history of Acton and Council was determined to keep it that way and

## Coming Events

Please keep this date open. Knox Y.W.A. Valentine Party on Monday, February 14th in the Sunday School Room.

Dance in Orton Community Hall on Saturday evening, January 15th. Harvey Fisher's Orchestra. Admission 35c.

To-night-to-morrow night and Saturday night—just three more chances to see "Soup Stock." 200 rush seats every night. You'll be sorry if you miss this hit of the year.