

# The Acton Free Press.

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Eight Home-Print Pages—Five Cents

## All Vacancies on Teaching Staff Are Now Filled

### Three Positions on Continuation School and Three on Public School Ready Now For Next Term

With several special meetings of Acton School Board during the past week all the vacancies on both the staff of the Continuation and Public Schools have been filled satisfactorily. In the Continuation School, Mr. George A. Gordier of Thornbury has been engaged as principal at a salary of \$2000. His assistants will be Miss Jean Barber of Mantowaning who has been principal of the Continuation School there for the past ten years and Mrs. W. R. Carton who has been on the staff of Rockwood Continuation School. Both these teachers will receive salaries of \$1600 each. In the Public School, Miss Miriam Ritchie of Baden will be the new teacher in grade two, Mrs. Norman R. Brock of Trout Creek will teach in grade four and Mrs. Irene Michel of Parry Sound will teach grade six. The salaries of all these teachers will be \$1100 per annum. All have had several years teaching experience and are well qualified for the positions. While the number of applications now received are not in the same category of a few years ago when hundreds applied for every vacancy, there were quite sufficient numbers of qualified teachers for all the vacancies.

## MRS. W. WOLFE SPEAKER AT MEETING OF ARTS AND CRAFTS

The Arts and Crafts Co-operative held their third meeting of the year on Thursday, May 18th at the home of Mrs. Baddin, Georgetown. 18 members attended and 10 guests. Mrs. Wolfe, the president, opened the meeting with a welcome to members and guests. Matters of business were brought up for discussion. Mrs. Milne gave an interesting report on an exhibition of Canadian Arts and Crafts held recently in Toronto. The guest speaker, Mrs. Helen Wolfe, was introduced by Mrs. W. J. Beatty. Mrs. Wolfe gave a delightful talk on Interior Decoration. She spoke of the basic principles in architecture and stressed the value of unity in decorating a room or choosing furniture. The importance of color to walls, rug and upholstery, the influence of our great English cabinet makers on furniture in particular and cheered all her listeners by telling them that suitability and a warm welcome were after all of the greatest importance in creating a home. Tea was served by the hostess and everyone talked of plans for work during the year. Miss Pearl Smith invited the members to a picnic at her home on June 22.

## Y. M. C. A. MEMBERS ENJOYED VISIT TO GUELPH POOL

On Monday night the Y's Men's Club arranged for the boys and girls of Acton Y. M. C. A. between the ages of 15 and 18 a party at the Y. M. C. A. in Guelph. About twenty took part in the event and enjoyed the swim and the refreshments provided after. They returned home about 11 o'clock and vote it a splendid evening.

## C. C. F. Selects A Candidate for the Federal Election

A convention of Halton County C.C.F. clubs met in Milton, May 26th to choose a candidate for the next Federal Election. From four nominees: Ken Alton of Freeman, Robert Duncan of Oakville, Cecil Millward of Burlington, and Carlyle C. Browne of Burlington, an enthusiastic audience selected the last mentioned. Mr. Browne is a veteran of the last war and winner of the D.C.M. Present at the meeting, which was crowded and interesting, were Robert Thornbury, M.P.P. for Hamilton Centre, and Jack O'Hanley, candidate for Wentworth County. In a short speech, which carried away his hearers with its humor and instruction, Mr. O'Hanley dwelt on the "protection" racket of our large insurance companies. His figures, taken from their own reports were convincing. Mr. Thornbury's answers to questions regarding the milk distribution particularly in the Hamilton area, showed how both farmers and consumers could benefit if the C.C.F. policies were introduced. The audience crowded around Mr. Browne when the ballots were counted and broke into "He's a Jolly Good Fellow" with read fervor.

## SISTER PINS ON WINGS



When Howard A. Norton graduated from No. 10 A. O. S. Chatham, N.B., his father and sister Marjorie were present and Marjorie had the honor of pinning the wings on her brother. Photo is by courtesy of the R.C.A.F.

## Fines for Several in Police Court Yesterday in Milton

In Police Court at Milton yesterday afternoon, George Bourque of Acton was fined \$50 and costs or 30 days in jail on a charge of willfully destroying property without justification. The charge arose from an altercation at the Beardmore Company plant when Bourque broke two panes of glass with gold lettering. James Brydon was assessed \$10 and costs for having trout in his possession under seven inches in length. Gordon Mathews, game warden of Guelph preferred the charges. For allowing a dog to run at large contrary to local by-law, Mrs. Jennings was charged \$2 and costs. Magistrate Woodliffe presided at the Court and Chief Harrop of Acton laid the charges.

## ERAMOSIA FOLKS HONOR COUPLE WITH PRESENTATION

About 60 friends and neighbors gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William West, 5th line, Eramosia to honor Rae West and his bride, the former Velma Blair of Acton. During the evening Albert Gray called on Rae and his bride to come forward and Gordon Gray read an address. Douglas Forsyth and Stewart Allan presented to Mr. and Mrs. West a floor lamp and smoker. Rae replied fittingly. Lunch was served by the committee in charge and the rest of the evening was spent in dancing.

## Halton Communities Organize to Supply Farm Labor

Plans are now under way in the 5 urban municipalities of the County to supply emergency farm labor during haying and harvest, states Agricultural Representative J. E. Whitlock. On Friday evening of last week, a meeting was held in the Agricultural Representative's office, Milton which was attended by the urban Reeves and a number of farm leaders. It was the consensus of opinion at this meeting that crop prospects are excellent. Hay and wheat plentifully will be heavy and spring grain, in general, is also looking promising. On the other hand, farm labor is a minus quantity and conspicuous by its absence. On a large percentage of Halton farms varying in size from 100 to 200 acres, the operator is attempting to carry on alone. Notwithstanding the catchy weather, the spring crop, thanks to the tractors in the ground and, as indicated above, looks promising. Getting off the hay and harvest alone presents an entirely different picture and urban residents of the county will have to come to the rescue if the crop is to be saved. It was generally admitted by all, at last Friday night's meeting, that local commando labor is not a solution to the farm labor problem, nevertheless, it was felt that, if each of the five urban centres enter wholeheartedly in the program, it will help out materially. The odd day or half day in the hay field and evenings at harvest time can all be used to advantage. There is a place for everyone, if you as urban dwellers, can't fork hay, you can roll it or drive the team on the haylopper, the hay fork or the rake, so make your plans now. In our next issue we expect to be able to announce local commando headquarters and further details concerning rate of pay, transportation, etc.

## A Front Page Editorial

One of the biggest problems facing this community right now is the housing problem. There was when there was concern over new industries and their need to build up the town.

To-day the problem is where to house those who work in our industries. Acton has become an industrial centre and the communities around are now supplying the housing accommodation.

Every day a bus owned by Beardmore and Co. takes twenty-two workmen to Erin where they reside. For over a year a Gray Coach has brought forty or so from the westerly direction, as far as Guelph. In desperation, manufacturers have bought homes as they are offered for sale, not we presume, because they desire to own real estate, but because that is the only way men can live near their work. We know that no other town in this district is suffering as acute a shortage because at the present time workmen in the industries have been able to secure homes in these neighboring towns, hoping that an opportunity will arise for a home here.

We doubt if any city or town in proportion to population has a housing problem as serious as that to be found in Acton. It is a problem that will not disappear with the close of the war because Acton industries are ones that supply peacetime needs as well. None of the dozen industries located here will close down when the need for war equipment ceases.

Folks like to live in Acton. We have everything here for young and old that the city offers in the way of comforts and pleasure. Perhaps we have devoted too much time to securing these and felt that folks would find a place to live.

People who live in Acton are working people, capable to maintain and enjoy a moderate home. Extension of municipal services can easily be given to new areas without any hardship. Acton needs fifty new homes this year and a similar increase for several years. In these days of post-war planning, Acton must give priority to house building. And we don't think the problem one to be solved in the lap of municipal councils or governments, but one where the individuals who desire the accommodation will have to take the initiative. Now is the time to plan the house you want and the house that you can afford to live in. A man making \$40 a week cannot afford more than a \$4000 house, is a fairly safe guide.

## CLOSING MEETING OF YOUNG PEOPLES GROUPS OF DISTRICT

A large representation from the local churches attended the closing meeting in the series of Union Young People's Services held in the Hillsburg Baptist Church Sunday evening, May 28th.

Mr. Lloyd Burt, president of the Hillsburg B. Y. P. U., in charge of the service, welcomed the visitors. Mr. Harris led in prayer and Burt Avey led the Responsive Lesson. Miss Marjorie Skilton, Guelph, sang a solo "In the Garden." The male quartette of Hillsburg sang "In Galilee." Miss Esther Taylor, St. Alban's Y. P. A., Acton, read the scripture lesson and Mr. Chas. Landsborough, Acton B. Y. P. U. played "The Stranger of Galilee" as a cornet solo.

Mr. Rae, a returned missionary from China gave a very interesting address on his work there. He showed two films dealing with life in China and stressed the need for deeper practical interest in our missionary enterprises in China.

During the fellowship hour which followed in the church basement, Mrs. Donald Matheson led a sing song of favorite hymns with Miss Akitt at the piano. Lunch was served bringing a most enjoyable evening to a close.

## CONTEST, DEBATE ON PROGRAM OF FRIENDLY CIRCLE

The regular meeting of the Friendly Circle of the United Church was held on Wednesday evening. The evening began with a contest of which Mrs. G. McKenzie was the winner. Miss Bennett gave a very interesting and informative reading on child care. A very amusing and informative debate on "Live Alone and Like It" was given by Mrs. D. Richardson and Irma Wilderspin.

Plans were made for a picnic in the park on June 28th and a bazaar in the fall. A treasure hunt during the evening also caused much merriment. Lunch was served by the group.

## Boys in Italy Would Like Leave After Four Years

Letters are received by the Acton and Vicinity War Service League regularly and from them we glean the following items of news to the folks at home.

Piper R. McVey writes from Italy: "Thanking you and the people of Acton for the chocolates I have received. You have been very good for the last four and a half years that I have been overseas. But there are a few of us who have been away from home since 1939 and we are wondering when we are going to get a leave home to see our people. A short leave is all we want but we have no hope whatever. So if you can put a word in someone's ear it may help."

Harold Robson says: "The people back home are really doing a fine job for us here. It makes us feel proud of being over here if we know the folks back home are doing their share. I give the Free Press to Duke Lindsay so thank the Force Electric for letting us have the news from our good little town."

Walter Lamb tells us: "Thanks ever so much. We certainly appreciate the cigarettes over here. I haven't seen Jim for several weeks now as he is in the hospital with boils."

Tpr. J. McHugh says of Italy: "The weather out here is quite hot now, which I like very much, but apparently the mosquitoes like hot weather too, so we are taking pills to prevent malaria."

"Joe (Sonny) Jacques, who is also in my regiment received his chocolate bars and he was sure happy too."

Edmund N. Gibson says: "To the many friends who have enquired may I say that I am fit and well again. It has been a pleasure during the past year to have met a number of Acton men on my travels. They all speak in sincere appreciation of all the War Services have done for them."

Those who also expressed their appreciation for parcels and cigarettes were: Gnr. G. C. Wallace, Cpl. E. W. Cole, F. O. E. H. McKeown, L. Cpl. H. Simpson, F. O. F. Turner, Spr. P. Blinle, Pte. H. C. Rice, Pte. F. C. French, Ross Swackhamer, Pte. R. A. Johnson, Spr. J. Waterhouse, Bdr. G. Morris, Pte. B. D. Hodges, Bdr. T. A. Curry, Gnr. J. G. Lamb, Pte. T. G. Reldt, Cpl. E. Waller, Gnr. J. A. Higgins, J. Drysdale, V. A. Wheeler, L. Cpl. Cross, L. S. Len Lambert, F. W. Near, F. Kelly, Pte. A. Weaver, Sgt. N. L. McNabb, Pte. E. Patrick, Spr. N. S. Land, Pte. A. E. Massey, Harry Spencer, Cpl. O. R. Brown, Rfn. Robertson, Tpr. C. H. Lindsay, Pte. J. Scriven.

## JUNIOR FARMERS JUNIOR INSTITUTE HOLD CLOSING MEETING

The Acton Junior Farmers and Junior Institute held their last regular meeting for the season in the Lorne School on Thursday evening, May 25th with a good attendance. It took the form of a pie and ice cream social.

The Junior Institute had a very successful meeting with Mrs. Alex. Near as their speaker. She gave a very fitting and interesting address on the work of the Women's Institute—also telling the story of how it came to be formed. Gordon Leslie spoke to the Junior Farmers on the "Different Kinds of Weeds."

The joint meeting was opened with the Maple Leaf. Margaret McPhail then took the chair for the following program: reading, Howard Soltz; musical selections by Lillian, Richard and Harry Shortill and Harvey Kirkwood; sing song led by Margaret McPhail, followed by a rhythm band composed of members of the audience who had not joined in the sing song. A stump debate entitled "Resolve that a wheel barrow is of more value to a farmer than a wife." This proved to be quite amusing with the affirmative side, which was upheld by Elwood Johnston, Mansell Nellis and Melvin McCullough, winning. The negative was upheld by Gordon Leslie, Lois Watson and R. L. Davidson. The last number was a reading by Gordon Leslie.

The meeting closed with the National Anthem. Pie and ice cream were served and the remainder of the evening was spent in dancing.

## TRUCK STOLEN HERE FOUND NEXT DAY BELOW MILTON

Sometime Friday night, the truck belonging to Massey's Meat Market was stolen in Acton. Chief Harrop and Provincial Police Ray Mason were notified and on Saturday morning the truck was recovered, below Milton undamaged.

The tool house at the C. N. R. was also entered and tools taken that could be used in opening a safe. The tools have not yet been located but apparently the same gang is operating again in this district.

## WOUNDED IN ITALY



Pte. R. G. Lovell of Acton who was reported wounded in Italy on May 23rd. No further details have yet been received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Lovell.

## Softball League Will Play Schedule in the Park

A softball meeting was held in the Y. M. C. A. on Tuesday, May 30 with representatives from Canadian Wool, Beardmore and Co. and the town.

The following officers were elected: President—Mr. Wm. Talbot. Vice-president—Mr. J. H. Boulton. Secretary-treasurer—Mr. Ed. Ryder.

It was decided to play a schedule of games on Monday and Thursday nights as follows:

- June 5—Town vs. Tannery.
- June 8—Tannery vs. Canadian Wool.
- June 12—Canadian Wool vs. Town.
- June 15—Tannery vs. Town.
- June 19—Canadian Wool vs. Tannery.
- June 22—Town vs. Canadian Wool.
- June 25—Town vs. Tannery.
- June 29—Tannery vs. Canadian Wool.
- July 3—Canadian Wool vs. Town.
- July 6—Tannery vs. Town.
- July 10—Canadian Wool vs. Tannery.
- July 13—Town vs. Canadian Wool.

## SIMPSON FAMILY HOLDS REUNION AT HOME IN ACTON

The Simpson family reunion was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Harris, Acton on May 24th, 1944. Among those present were Mr. James Simpson, Tottenham; Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Wannop, Manville, Alta.; Rev. and Mrs. George T. Simpson, Goldworth; Donald and Betty Marie of Mount Hope; James Harvey and Mrs. Simpson of Tottenham; Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Harris, Misses Mabel and Frieda Harris of Acton; Mr. and Mrs. John Simpson and James Jr. of Orillia; Mrs. D. J. Brethaupt and Louise of Kitchener; Mrs. R. J. Wallace of Acton; Mrs. Eliza Ross of Hamilton; Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Wilson and Lois of Campbellville. Among those absent were Floyd Wannop of the Home Guard; Roy overseas; James, Mabel and Irene of Manville, Alta.; Dr. D. J. Brethaupt of the R. C. N. V. R.

This is the first time the family have been together for 25 years. A very pleasant afternoon was spent and a buffet luncheon was served.

## Officers Elected For Bowling and Tennis Clubs

At the annual meeting on Monday evening of Acton Lawn Bowling and Tennis Club, the following officers were elected for the year:

- Hon. Presidents—Col. Beardmore, S. J. Bennett, W. J. Gould.
- President—J. M. McDonald.
- Vice-president—S. M. Lasby.
- Secretary-treasurer—Miss Alice McCullum.
- Chairman, Bowling Committee—David Richardson.
- Chairman, Tennis Committee—Miss Doris Wilson.

The greens and tennis courts are now in full use and it appears members of the club are likely to enjoy one of the best seasons in years for this outdoor sport.

## ANOTHER INDUSTRY EXCEEDED QUOTA IN SIXTH LOAN

Later returns in the Sixth Victory Loan bring the information that Armaco Company was another of the Acton industries to exceed their quota. The subscriptions of the employees here were approximately 150 per cent of the objective.

## Another Soldier From Acton is Wounded in Italy

### Pte. Gordon Lovell Overseas Nearly Three Years Wounded When Serving with Canadians

Word was received on Sunday evening by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Lovell that their son, Pte. Gordon Lovell had been wounded while in action in Italy. The message stated that the wounds were received on May 23rd. No further word has yet been received.

Gordon went overseas in June, 1941, landing in England on Dominion Day. He enlisted here and went overseas with the Lorne Scots and later transferred to the 48th Highlanders. He has been overseas for nearly three years. Before enlisting, Gordon and his brother, Leonard owned and operated the Lovell Bros. Meat Market here which has been carried on since by his brother. His sister (Thelma) Mrs. Cecil Gibbons also resides in Acton.

Many friends here will await with the parents and family more encouraging news of his progress and entertain with them the hope that his wounds will not be serious.

## SWITZER — GEESON WEDDING MAY 19th AT EDMONTON, ALTA.

A wedding of interest in Edmonton and other Alberta points took place in St. Stephen's college chapel, on Friday, May 19th when Miss Gladys Elaine Geeson, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. John R. Geeson of Holden, became the bride of Petty Officer George Gullin Switzer, R. C. N. V. R., son of Mrs. G. H. Switzer of Acton, Ont., and the late Mr. Switzer. Rev. J. R. Geeson, the bride's father, officiated.

The bride wore a white silk skirt, a tea-length model with full skirt. Her veil of embroidered net was held in place with a wreath of orange blossoms. She carried sweetheart roses and freesias.

Miss Jean Cramer of Claraholm, was bridesmaid. She was in pale pink sheer and carried blue iris and pink carnations. Best man was Chief Petty Officer Currie W. Hawkins of Ottawa.

Mrs. A. J. Hodge of Calgary, sister of the bride, played the wedding marches. During signing of the register, Miss Dorothy Geeson, sister of the bride sang "I Did Not Know." The reception was held at the home of Major and Mrs. R. W. Bradley, where the bride's table was centered with a model convoy of the Canadian navy, flanked on either side with candles and flags. The wedding cake, on a silver base, was topped with red, white and blue flowers and miniature flags. Toast to the bride was proposed by CPO. Hawkins.

Mrs. Bradley received with the bride's mother, Mrs. Geeson, who wore aquamarine with a corsage of red roses.

The newlyweds left for a short honeymoon at Banff, the bride travelling in a turquoise wool suit with accessories of navy touched with white and a corsage of gardenias.

On return P.O. and Mrs. Switzer will make their home temporarily in Edmonton.

## MONKEY RUNS AMOK

EXMOUTH, England (CP)—Mrs. Charles Pannell of this Devon town had looked after her brother's 8 year old monkey since he joined the Royal Marines four years ago. The monkey recently broke its chain and attacked Mrs. Pannell, sending her to the hospital with arm injuries. The monkey was destroyed.

## Coming Events

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

Euchre at Brookville Hall, June 6th, auspices of the Federation of Agriculture.

Play—"A Pair of Country Kids" by Ballinag Young People in Greenock School, Monday, June 5, under auspices of Greenock Red Cross Group. Admission 35c. Children 20c. Proceeds for Red Cross.

Dance Recital by pupils of Shirley Elliott, Town Hall, Acton, Wednesday June 7th at 8.30 p.m. 30 Talented children, all in glorious costumes. Don't miss this hit of the season. Admission: Adults 35c. Children 20c. 47-2