

The Acton Free Press.

Seventy-first Year.—No. 37.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, MARCH 21st, 1946.

Eight Home-Print Pages—Five Cents.

Bowling Alleys to Open Here for Fall Season

Town Hall Auditorium and Stage to be Redecorated—Air Raid Siren for Fire Alarm to be Given Council Appreciated Work of All in Water Emergency in Town

Acton Council met in regular session on Monday evening with Councilors W. J. O. Oakes, J. H. Craghton, W. J. Benson and C. L. Cook present. Reeve C. L. Kirkness presided. The meeting was held in the Public Utilities office.

Accounts were passed for payment as follows:

W. D. Talbot, arena and town supplies	\$ 25.25
J. B. Mackenzie, fuel	86.85
Acton Welfare Board to J. H. Mackenzie	6.25
War Assets Corporation, air raid siren	290.00
Wilfred Coles, clerk and balliff fees	8.00
Jenkins and Hardy, audit fee & disbursements	301.20
Bell Telephone Co., services	9.08
Acton Public Utilities Comm. services & express	227.52
Gutta Percha & Rubber Co., supplies	3.80
C. L. Kirkness, mileage expenses to Milton	1.50
E. K. Harrop, boys delivering bills	19.00

\$370.12

Mr. John Lauman of Kitchener was present to discuss with Council the possibilities of installing a modern bowling alley in Acton. He had bowling alleys in a number of municipalities in this district. They would like to erect a building on Main St. near Mill St. to have accommodation for four alleys and planned a cement block building with modern front. The building would be owned and erected by Mr. McLeod of Acton on his property. Mr. Lauman asked that permission be granted to operate until 12 o'clock each night and assured Council that the recreation would be conducted in an orderly manner and would cater only to those who would conduct themselves in a proper manner.

Council approved of having a bowling alley and agreed to amend the by-law for 12 o'clock closing. The clerk was instructed to prepare the amendment for the next meeting. Mr. Lauman said he hoped to have the alleys ready for September opening.

Representatives of the Toronto Telegram called at the meeting and asked for a statement regarding the water pollution in Acton and all the information was furnished in a statement. The Reeve and Council posed for a picture for the newspaper reporters.

The account from Guelph General Hospital for an indigent patient was approved. Another account from the Sick Children's Hospital for an indigent was disputed.

A letter was read concerning a supply of calcium chloride for use on the roads. Arrangements were made to secure 15 tons this year.

The tax by-law was to be changed with standard limits of insurance carried.

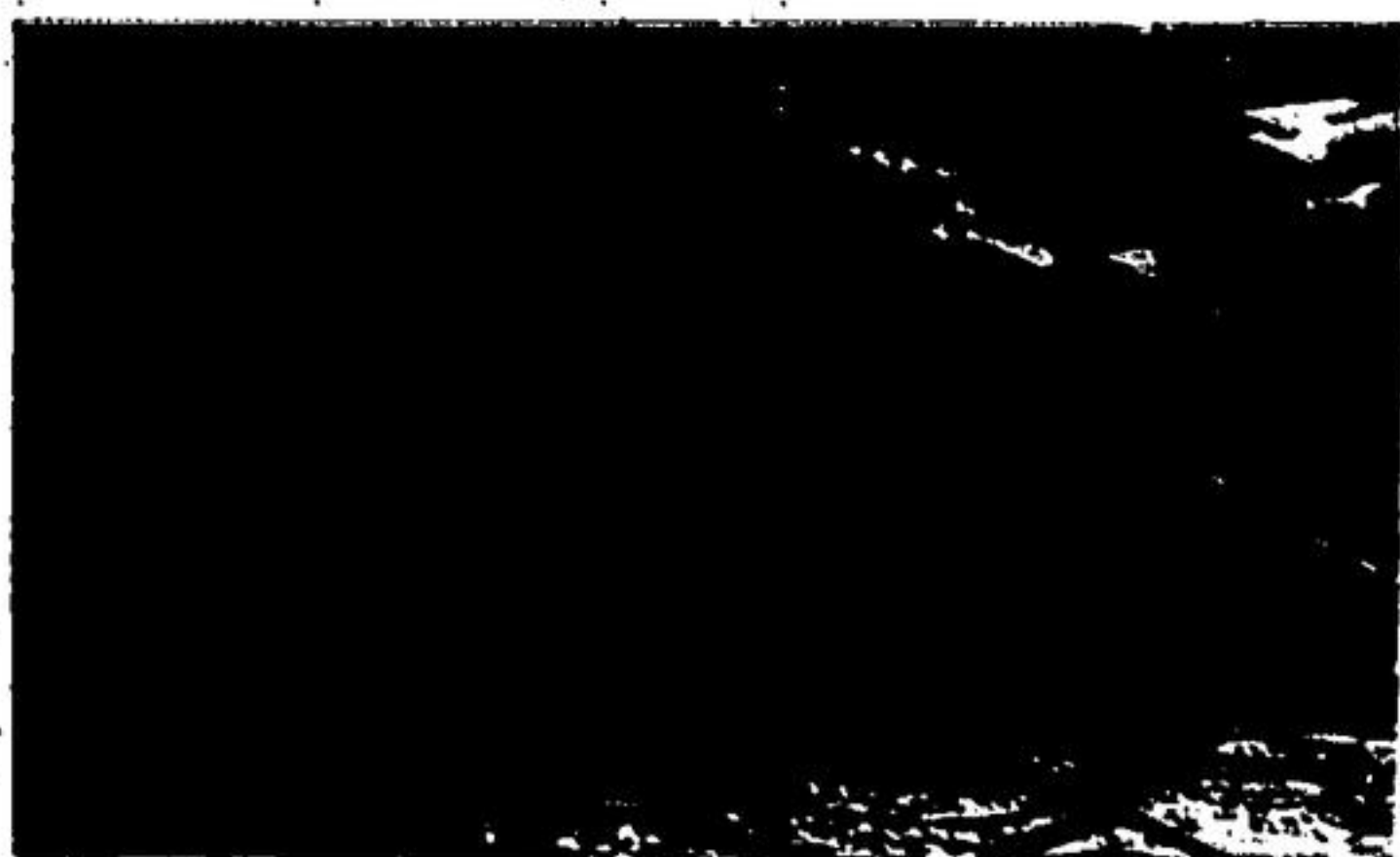
Correspondence was read in connection with exemption from taxation of the Legion Hall on Main Street. The by-law granting this exemption was read as required and passed.

A letter from Jenkins and Hardy, auditors, was read regarding the by-law and estimates.

The by-law covering the estimates for the year was read and passed by Council.

Councillor Cook gave information he had secured regarding painting the Town Hall auditorium. Cost of painting was estimated at \$280 with walls

THREE FEET HIGH ON PUMP HOUSE



Superintendent Chas. Wilson of the Public Utilities Commission shows the height of the flood on the pump house wall reached in Saturday's flood. The motor of one pump was burned out and disposal water covered the reservoir.

THE MAIN DAM AND 25,000,000 GALLON FILTER BED



This is the view of destruction as photographed on Sunday morning by the Free Press. The dam, thirty feet in height, was entirely destroyed, releasing the flood of water which swept through the valley and flooded the whole section, including the reservoir and pump house which supplies Acton with water. Work started on Monday repairing the dam so that tannery disposal would be stopped from going down the stream.

Breaking of Filter Bed Dam Flooded Municipal Water Reservoir and Damaged Bridges

Sudden Release of 25,000,000 Gallon Sediment Basin Spread Disposal Water and Debris Over Wide Area — Bridge Three Miles Below Swept Away — Municipal Water Service Polluted but No Hardship Experienced in Getting Water Supply — Everything Back to Normal on Tuesday Afternoon and Water Pure Again

Havoc was created in Acton and a wide district below the town on Saturday afternoon when a large filter bed estimated to contain 25,000,000 gallons of water and sludge broke the dam, swept through in a wall of water and took away a second dam and overflowed the natural drainage facilities. The surge of water was so heavy that it backed up to the municipal water reservoir and pump house and covered the reservoir for a depth of two and a half feet.

Water filled the pumping station and covered the motor of a new pump installed last spring, burning out the motor. While a considerable amount of the dirty water got into the system, the stopping of the pump did not allow the quantity that might otherwise have occurred.

First intimation of any trouble came when Miss Annie Black notified Mr. Wilson, waterworks superintendent about 1:30 p.m. on Saturday that water in the taps was discolored. Immediate investigation by Mr. Wilson at the spring showed the flood condition which was then receding but had flooded the pumps. The pumping from this source was stopped and Mr. Wilson came back to town to secure help and make a report on the condition. On his return the flood had left the station and inspection could be made.

First consideration of officials and Beardmore and Co. personnel was the correction of the damage to water service to Acton. A joint meeting of the Board of Health and Council was held. On Saturday evening bulletins were printed and distributed to every house in town, warning that the water supply was unfit for drinking and cooking purposes. Mr. A. V. de Laporte and engineers from the

Provincial Department of Health were contacted and arrived in Acton that night.

Three bulletins, published on Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, kept residents informed of the progress in repairs and guided the use of the water supply.

Worked All Night
Superintendent Wilson and his staff assisted by workers from Beardmore and Co. worked during the night. The water in the stand pipe and the line to the spring was drained of all water and refuse. The stand pipe was filled with pure water from the reservoir on Main Street. Early Sunday morning the pumps at Beardmore and Co. were put into action and chlorinated water from Fairy Lake was put in the mains and used until Sunday evening for household purposes other than drinking or cooking.

At the spring a large pump was loaned by Beardmore and Co. and taken by their men to the property. The reservoir was pumped clear of water and in the afternoon was thoroughly scrubbed and disinfected under the supervision of Mr. de Laporte and the Department officials. Shortly after five o'clock the tanks were allowed to fill with clear water and the supply generously chlorinated. The auxiliary pumps were disconnected about six o'clock and the town supply resumed.

The Water Wagon
The problem of water for drinking and cooking was met promptly. In fact some late Sunday morning sleepers complained too promptly. The fire truck cruised the streets with siren wailing and firemen knocked at doors to inform people that a truck was on the way with a supply of water. Sunday morning was a scene such as Acton has never seen as citizens stood along the street and secured water from the milk and cream cans in the trucks. Dairy and creamery trucks co-operated to make this possible and every thirst was quenched. The delivery was maintained all day. The supply was secured from local wells and at the wells of two dairies.

Monday large cream tanks were loaded on the trucks and the water supply was secured from the system at Georgetown. This delivery was maintained until Tuesday evening when the final bulletin announced that water in the taps was again ready for use. During this time the whole system of mains was flushed several times by opening the fire hydrants. The first such flushing was on Saturday afternoon and night and the last one was on Tuesday.

There have been no reports of serious illness or epidemic from the unfortunate experience. The motor on the main pump was taken to Guelph on Sunday and is expected back today (Thursday). In the meantime the

Georgetown Wins Hockey Group—Tied With Port Elgin Tuesday

The Georgetown Intermediate B Hockey Team is still in the running for provincial honors. The final game to decide the group champions was played last Friday night in Fergus and Georgetown won by a score of 5-1. It was the third game of the group play-off. Georgetown goals were by Strophaitis, Christa, Nash and Patterson. The Fergus goal was by Hillson.

In the first game out of the group, Georgetown met Port Elgin on Tuesday night in Galt. The game ended in a 7-7 draw. Georgetown took a big lead in the first period and scored six goals and then their pace was let down until Port Elgin caught up with them. A special train was run from Georgetown for the game and the Girls' Pipe Band were on hand to add spirit and color to the event. The next game is in Owen Sound on Friday night.

MARCH MEETING OF KNOX W. M. S. AT MRS. J. LEISHMAN'S

Knox Church W. M. S. held their meeting at the home of Mrs. J. Leishman on March 14, 1946. Owing to the absence of the president and vice-president, the meeting was ably conducted by Mrs. (Dr.) Buchanan.

The devotional period was taken by Mrs. Cordner reading the scripture lesson and Mrs. Buchanan offering a prayer. The Society was favored with a piano solo by Mrs. Gowdy. Mrs. F. Anderson gave a very interesting reading from the study book on Africa. In connection with the mission study period, Mrs. Anderson outlined the great need for missionary work in Africa, pointing out the vast area of the country and of millions of her people who are in need of Christian education. The beautiful hymn "Near to the heart of God" was sung as a duet by Misses Bettie Masters and Joan Somerville. The offering was taken and dedicated by Mrs. Buchanan.

A very interesting meeting was brought to a close by the singing of a hymn and the offering of a prayer. Refreshments were then served and a social time spent.

Two Cases Heard In Milton Court On Wednesday

In police court yesterday at Milton Henry Andrews, charged with falling to stop at the scene of an accident, was fined \$50 and costs or thirty days.

Robert Henry, convicted on a charge of cruelty was given his choice of being whipped (not more than 10 lashes) or thirty days in jail. He chose the lashes.

MISSIONARY SPEAKER AT MEETING OF THE UNITED W. M. S.

The regular monthly business meeting of the Women's Missionary Society of the United Church was held at the home of Mrs. W. J. Beatty on Tuesday. Miss E. J. Caldwell presided.

The devotional period was taken by Mrs. A. W. Fosbury and Mrs. N. H. Wilson. Mrs. B. Mowat introduced the guest speaker, Miss Edith M. Clark of Angola, home on furlough who gave a very interesting talk on the work of training the girl in the home in Miss and their wonderful work in basketry. There were several pieces of this work and the various uses were explained. The primitive ways of living were very interesting.

Mrs. B. Veldhuis and Miss D. Simmons contributed vocal solos and a piano solo and several selections were given by Mrs. W. J. Gowdy. The meeting closed with prayer by Rev. A. W. Fosbury.

Mrs. Beatty, assisted by Mrs. A. W. Fosbury and Mrs. J. Symon served a very delightful lunch. A very hearty vote of thanks was given to Mrs. Beatty for her home and hospitality, also to the speaker, program and lunch assistants.

TWO ACTON MINISTERS NAMED MODERATORS OF THEIR CHURCHES

Rev. R. Forbes Thomson, of Acton was elected moderator of the Guelph Presbytery for a six-month term when the Presbytery met this week in Knox Presbyterian Church, Guelph. He succeeds Rev. W. A. Young of Fergus.

About a month ago Rev. A. W. Fosbury was chosen moderator of Halton Presbytery of the United Church. Acton now has two resident ministers who hold these high positions in their respective churches during the same period.

Halton Seed Fair and Bacon Show Another Success

W. E. Breckon and Arthur Dickinson Won the Specials—Other Awards and Features

The Acton Town Hall was the scene of another outstanding seed fair and bacon show on Saturday, March 16th. The event was held under the auspices of the Halton Crop Improvement Association. The entries in both sections of the show were slightly lower than a year ago, nevertheless it was an outstanding show, attractively displayed and topped off by a splendid program of addresses. The cereal grain classes were fairly strong and represented well over 4,000 bush of grain of similar quality offered for sale. A total of 43 entries were made in the oat and barley classes alone. The T. Eaton Co. Special for the Champion exhibit in the seed show was won by W. E. Breckon, of Freeman on his bush of Urban Oats.

Eighteen Grain Club members wound up their year's activity by exhibiting in their special classes for Ajax Oats and Galore Barley. In the former club, Henk DeVries of Georgetown was high Club Member on the aggregate score and in the Galore Barley Club the top award on the aggregate score went to Fraser McNeill, also of Georgetown district. The latter club member was the winner of the Special award of a week's Short Course at the O.A.C., donated by the Halton Crop Improvement Ass'n.

The Bacon Show sponsored by the Halton Association in cooperation with the Federal Department of Agriculture, and Canada Packers Ltd., was again the feature attraction of the show. Forty-four Halton Hog Producers each entered a hog for this event the latter part of February. These 44 hogs had been marketed in the usual manner, slaughtered and made into Wilshire by Canada Packers Ltd. Twenty Wilshires from as many different carcasses were on display and had been selected on the basis of those dressing closest to 150 lbs. irrespective of quality. The Grand Champion Wilshire was produced from the entry of Arthur Dickinson of Milton, with an entry of Major General W. H. Greenly of Palmerston getting reserve. The Dickinson entry was awarded the T. Eaton Co. Special.

A new feature of the Bacon Show which created a great deal of interest was a hog carcass grading competition, which was open to all. The awards were as follows: 1st, Stewart Miller, Georgetown; 2nd, Ed. Snow, Milton; 3rd, Jack Marchmont, Hornby; 4th, Robert Miller, Georgetown.

A T. Woodley, president of the Halton Association ably presided over the program on Saturday afternoon.

Coming Events

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

Dance, Brookville Hall, on Friday, March 29th. Stewart Elliot's Orchestra. Auspices of Naasagaweya W. I. Association. 4¢.

The regular meeting of the Acton Junior Farmers will be held in Beaknaburn School on March 28th. Main feature of the evening is a debate "Resolved that in the best interest of Canada that a policy of immigration from Europe be adopted." Ladies provide lunch. Everybody welcome.

THIRD LINE BRIDGE DESTROYED



The cement bridge on the third line at Dolly Varden, three miles below the broken dam, that was destroyed on Saturday when the filter bed dam broke. The roadway on either side was washed away.—Free Press Photo.