

# The Acton Free Press.

Seventy-Second Year—No. 25.

ACTON, ONTARIO, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24th, 1946

Eight Home-Print Pages—Five Cents

## Christmas Greetings

### Presentations Made at the At Home of Acton School

#### Town Hall Filled for Social Night of School Year

The High School At Home is always a big event in the lives of the pupils and teachers. Parents and friends, enjoyed the one on Thursday evening of Acton School which was held in the hall. Music for dancing was supplied by the Merry-makers Orchestra.

The presentation of awards was a highlight of the event. The prizes awarded by the Lakeside Chapter I.O.O.F. was presented by Miss Alice McCallum. Betty Masters and George Elliott of the Middle School won the award for the girl and boy having the best all-round record in the four years of school work.

The prizes and certificates for the "Never Late, Never Absent" were won by the following:

Grade IX: Muriel Johnston, Patricia Chew, Jacqueline Currie, Mary Mowat.  
Grade X: Mildred Armstrong, Stella Zajac.  
Grade XI: Dena Braida, Olga Locker, Helen McLellan, Martin Durken.  
Grade XII: Aldo Braida, Joan Somerville.

The silver medal for the best shot in the Cadet Corp was won by Ronald Hemaley. This medal and the medals for the Athletic Championships were presented by G. A. Dills, Chairman of Acton School Board to the following:

Jr. Boys' Athletic Champion, Playford Lehman, Jr. Girls' Athletic Champion, Jacqueline Chew; Int. Boys' Athletic Champion, Melbourne Blow; Int. Girls' Athletic Champion, Joan Coles; Sr. Girls' Athletic Champion, Joan Somerville; Sr. Boys' Athletic Champion, Lorne Arbo.

Proficiency awards also presented by Mr. Dills were as follows: The A. T. Brown Trophy for Grade IX Academic Proficiency awarded Eleanor Beatty.

The Wm. Cooper Trophy for Grade X Academic Proficiency awarded to Lorraine Pallant.  
The H. H. Hinton Trophy for Middle School Academic Proficiency awarded to Betty Masters.

The Dr. Cullen Trophy for proficiency in Middle School Science awarded to Ernest West.  
The Dr. Buchanan Trophy for proficiency in Middle School Languages awarded to Betty Masters.

The Dr. J. A. McNeven Trophy for proficiency in Middle School English awarded to Bunny Anderson.  
The F. S. Blow Trophy for proficiency in Middle School Mathematics awarded to Ernest West.

The Lower School Intermediate Certificates were presented to Elaine Arbic, Mildred Armstrong, Muriel Burns, Florence Coleman, Bertha Ingles, Marion Keelan, Barbara Lawson, Lorraine Pallant, James Spielvogel, June Watkins, Joan White.

The Secondary School Graduation Diplomas were received by the following students: Bunny Anderson, Ray-

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### Final Meeting Utilities Commission For the Year

The final meeting of Acton Public Utilities Commission was held on Thursday evening. Reeve C. L. Kirkness and Commissioner J. R. MacArthur were present with Chairman C. M. Hansen presiding.

Superintendent Wilson reported that Mr. McPhail had begun work on the staff of the Utilities on December 16th. He also reported that a number of merchants were co-operating with the Commission on conserving power by not turning on their window lights until after 8 o'clock. There are still some who have not complied with this request.

The Commission passed Christmas remembrances to all members of the staff in appreciation of the services rendered during the past year.

A motion was passed to transfer the hydrant rental account and other monies to the Waterworks Account at the end of the year to the General Account of the Corporation.

As this was the last meeting at which Reeve Kirkness was to be present, the Chairman, Mr. Hansen, expressed the pleasure the Commission had in working with Mr. Kirkness during the year.

Mr. Kirkness thanked the Commission for the feelings expressed and wished the Commission continued success in handling their share of the Corporation's business.

Hydro Department	
H.E.P.C. of Ont. supplies	\$6.15
Bell Telephone Co. of Can. services	9.29
Can. Gen. Electric Co. supplies	6.69
Northern Electric Co. Ltd. supplies	29.49
Sangamo Co. Ltd. supplies	42.53
James R. Kearney Corp. supplies	57.30
Mrs. Palmer Express	12.00
H.E.P.C. of Ont., Nov. power	4943.75
	\$5107.57

### MISSION BAND OFFICERS ELECTED AT DECEMBER MEETING

The meeting of the Ruth Nelson Mission Band was held on Thursday, December 11, 1946. The candles were lighted by Jane Elliott while John Mowatt recited a poem.

A Christmas story was given by Miss Ethel Franklin. David Cullen played a piano solo. Mrs. Mowatt gave a Christmas talk. A duet was contributed by Betty May and Sheila Fosbury. The study book chapter was read by Miss Bennett. Joyce and Betty Mae Lambert played a piano duet.

The election of officers resulted as follows:  
President—Jane Elliott.  
Vice-president—Christina Lamb.  
Treasurer—Ena Jennings.  
Herald—John Mowatt.  
Secretary—Verina Johnson.  
World Friends Secretary—Joyce Lambert.  
Corresponding Secretary—Barbara Joan Baxter.

### NEW POSTMASTER



Capt. Frank Terry, who has been appointed Postmaster at Acton, succeeding the late J. C. Matthews, who died in March, 1944. Miss Fern Brown has been Acting Postmistress until the permanent appointment was made.

### Frank Terry New Postmaster For Acton Office

#### Rose in Rank from Private to Captain—Former Star of Acton Tanners

Announcement is made this week of the appointment of Frank Terry as Postmaster at the Acton Office succeeding the late J. C. Matthews, who died two years ago. Miss Fern Brown has been acting Postmistress since Mr. Matthews' death. It has not yet been announced when Mr. Terry will assume his new duties.

The permanent appointment was withheld during the war until all those who had served would have an opportunity of making application for the position. As a result of Mr. Terry's high standing in the examinations held in October, the position has been secured by him.

Frank Terry has been a resident of Acton for the past fifteen years, coming here from Galt. He is a son of Edmond and the late Mrs. Terry. His father now resides in Peterborough. Up until his enlistment he was the star centre player of the Acton Intermediate Hockey Team and a member and captain of the Acton Baseball Team.

In 1940 he enlisted in the Canadian Army and rose through the ranks to Captain, serving in Canada and overseas. On his discharge he resumed his employment with Beardmore & Co. and has been foreman in charge of the maintenance of outside properties of the company.

Frank Terry is a member of the Y.M.C.A. Board, of the Acton Physical Fitness and Recreation Committee, a member of Walker Lodge, A. F. & A.M., member of Acton Branch of the Canadian Legion. He is married and has one daughter Patricia. Their home is on east Mill Street. His appointment to this important post will be a popular one. From the fine group of applicants for the position, it may have been a difficult one. We congratulate the new Postmaster and Acton residents are fortunate to have a man of his ability for the position.

Acton Post Office has a unique record. Since being established in 1844 it has had but three postmasters. Robert Swan was the first postmaster. He was followed by his nephew, James Matthews who held the position for over 60 years. His son, J. Chester Matthews succeeded him and held the position until his death in March 1944. Miss Fern Brown has very capably filled the position since the death of Mr. Matthews. For many years she had been his assistant and, we understand, will continue on the staff. Acton Post Office has a fine record for service to the community. In the present appointment that tradition of service will be maintained.

Perfumes should be kept in a dark place. Light causes oxidation, changes the formula and alters the scent.

### Beardmore & Co. Yuletide Gifts For the Servicemen

#### 171 Men Who Served in Armed Forces Receive Gifts From Company

Beardmore and Co. chose a unique way of expressing appreciation and a welcome back to the servicemen of the Company when on Friday afternoon they made Christmas presentations to three groups of men who had served in the armed forces. Men who had served in the war of 1939-45 and had been in the employ of the Company before enlisting and returned again to the Company after discharge received fine Spartan radios. There were 67 in this group. Men who had served in the last war and had entered the employ of the Company since discharge received electric razors. There were 70 in this group. 34 men who had served in the war of 1914-18 received pipes. 171 men were the honored guests at this gathering.

Some conception of the present size of Beardmore and Co. in Acton and the number of employees, could be gathered on Friday afternoon when they gathered in the big sole leather warehouse for the function. There are now about 750 on the Acton payroll of the firm. J. M. McDonald was chairman and briefly explained that the gathering was to honor those men of Beardmore and Co. who had served their country in the armed forces. A reverent silence was observed for those who did not return.

Mr. S. G. Bennett, president, addressed the gathering. He extended the best wishes of himself and the directors for a Merry Christmas. The directors wished at many times that a hall in the plant could at some time be provided for more frequent gatherings and closer relationship of employees and management. One of the penalties of an industry growing large was the losing of that personal contact between management and employees. He expressed personal appreciation of the efforts of all and the appreciation of Beardmore and Co. customers in their delivery of leather. Mr. Bennett told of the place now won by Beardmore and Co. in their new department of making upper leather. In addition to sole leather, now the upper leather of Beardmore and Co. was established in world markets with its sole leather products as second to none. He congratulated the employees on attaining and maintaining this high standard.

Veterans of the war of 1914-18 made the presentations to the 137 who served in the war of 1939-45 and Mr. S. G. Bennett made the presentations to the veterans of 1914-18. It is perhaps unique that among the group were also veterans of the South African War, W. J. Gould and Chas. Withers and that three of the men representing the Company were also veterans of 1914-18, Mr. S. G. Bennett, Dr. Paul Beer and Mr. J. M. McDonald.

Thanks of the various groups to the Company for this fine recognition was expressed on their behalf by Frank Terry, W. R. Ruddock and W. J. Gould.

Dr. Paul Beer, vice-president of the Company, in a brief address hit a note that is often overlooked. He said that before the men came back there was much alarm and inquiry about the rehabilitation of returned men. But the transition from war to peace time employment has been solved by the men themselves. They had come back and just got into the harness again. It was a tribute to them and he felt a matter that was appreciated by all Canadians.

There were nine men from Beardmore and Co. who fell in each of the last two wars. Their names were read and silent tribute paid to their memory. The National Anthem concluded the gathering.

### GETTING THINGS DONE

YARMOUTH, N.S. (CP)—Police Chief Harold Hopkins of Yarmouth believes in doing things himself. Glad in overall, the chief appeared on Main Street and painted yellow lines at intersections while his subordinates re-routed traffic to avoid smogging his handiwork.

### NEW CAMERA IS ADDED TO EQUIPMENT OF THE FREE PRESS

In keeping with our policy of maintaining the Free Press a leader in the field of presenting local news, we have this month added to the equipment the latest in press cameras and readers will see more local pictures in their home town paper during 1947. The new camera is known as an Anniversary Model of the 3 1/2 x 4 1/2 Speed Graphic and is equipped with Kalagat range finder and Graflex flash gun and synchronizer. For a number of years we have used a reflex camera but its scope was limited. The new camera offers a wider field for local pictures.

We might add that the Free Press is not interested in photography in a commercial way but only as it bears upon the local news and our commercial printing department. It is a broadening of our service in both these fields in keeping with our policy. We might add that the order for the present equipment was placed last February. David R. Dills continues in charge of the Free Press photography. Pictures this week are by the new camera as well as the photo last week of Reeve F. J. McCutcheon.

### TRUCK LOAD GROCERIES CRUISING ON MONDAY

On Monday morning the rear end of a truck delivering goods to Carroll's Store was struck by the C.N.R. east-bound passenger train and various items of fruit and groceries were thrown along the right of way. The upper right hand corner of the truck was smashed in but no one was injured and the remainder of the consignment was saved. The accident occurred on the Mill Street crossing as the truck was coming into Acton.

Manager (pointing to the cigarette butt on the floor): "Smith, is this yours?"  
Smith (pleasantly): "Not at all, sir. You saw it first."

### Coming Events

Announcements of Meetings, Conventions, Club Events, under this heading, are charged, in cents per line, with a minimum charge for any announcement of 50c.

Dance, New Year's Eve, Acton Town Hall, Fisher's Orchestra. Whistles, horns, hats. Admission 75c. 25-2

Dance to Bob Martin and his orchestra, Town Hall, Acton, every Saturday night. Dancing 8:30 to 12:00. Admission 50c. Auspices Legion. 25-2

Don't forget the carol service on December 20th at 7 p.m. in Knox Presbyterian Church. Special music by United and Presbyterian Church choirs. Everyone welcome. 24-2

Acton Junior Farmers' Hockey Club will hold a euchre at Lorne School Monday, December 30th, 8:30 sharp. Lunch provided, chicken for special door prize. Everyone welcome. Admission 25c. 24-2

### Acton Industries Give Children's Parties Saturday

#### Beardmore and Co. Have Event in Town Hall and Wool Combing Corporation at Y.M.C.A.

Saturday was Christmas party day for a great number of the children of Acton when Beardmore and Co. and the Wool Combing Corporation gave Christmas parties and visits of Santa Claus with presents to the employees of their respective firms.

The party of the Wool Combing Corporation started at one o'clock on Saturday afternoon in the Y.M.C.A. when about 150 children sat down to a fine Christmas luncheon. This was served in the social room of the Y. Then the children went to the gymnasium where a Christmas tree well embellished with parcels was the centre of attraction. Christmas carol singing was led by Mr. Norman Baird with Mr. H. O. Boyes at the piano.

Finally Santa Claus arrived and there was a gift for every good little boy and girl and at this time of year there are only good little boys and girls.

The Children's Party of Beardmore and Co. started about two thirty when Santa Claus in his cutter was escorted to the Town Hall by Acton Boys' and Girls' Band and a following of some of the older children. At the Town Hall there were over 300 children and some parents and they were entertained by such well known artists as Miss Marjorie Waters, Cliff Oldroyd with a slack wire act and dance number and Miss Edith Grainger on the accordion. There were Christmas carols and popular songs with Miss Waters doing the leading.

Of course all the children were anticipating the arrival of Santa Claus and he did come and welcomed them all and from a tree surrounded with Christmas stockings and parcels there was one for every child and his helpers distributed them.

Free Press pictures from both parties will appear in next week's issue of the Free Press.

### ACTON BOYS VISIT Y IN GUELPH ENJOY A SWIM

A good time was had by all when Guelph Junior Hi-Y invited boys of that age from Acton to Guelph for a few games, a swim and a luncheon. Games played included checkers and ping pong. After a refreshing swim, the boys all had a luncheon provided by the Y's Men's Club of Guelph.

The Acton Y's Men's Club provided transportation for the Acton boys, who were in charge of F. Nelson from the Y's Men's Club in Acton.

ANDOVER, N.B. (CP)—Recommendations for a floor price for potatoes and a higher ceiling were included in resolutions passed here at a meeting of New Brunswick potato growers.

### Presentation at High School At Home



The presentation of Certificates at Acton Continuation School At Home last Thursday evening. The presentations shown here are those of Secondary Graduation Diplomas. Presentations were made by G. A. Dills, Chairman of the Board this year.

### Beardmore Servicemen's Recognition



At the Beardmore and Co. Yuletide recognition to servicemen in their employ, a section of the group can be seen as 171 men were remembered. The Free Press camera caught the picture as the presentation was being made to G. A. Beines with Harry Rogers, veteran of two wars, at the microphone with ex-Warden J. M. McDonald.