

The Acton Free Press.

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Eight Home-Print Pages—Five Cents.

Acton Band Champions Five Years After Founding

Bandmaster Chas. W. Mason conducts local group from scales to C.N.E. award with Patience and Skill—Band Won Waterloo Contest and C.N.E. in 1947—A bit of History and a Prophecy Fulfilled

Five years ago last January (1942) Mr. Chas. W. Mason appeared before Acton Council and requested that the band instruments stored in the Town Hall be released to him so that he could organize a boys' band in Acton. War and the years had made their mark on the instruments and the building.

It is recalled that one night when the stakes were sour and the group needed encouragement Mr. Mason offered the word-of-cheer-to-the-group "Some day I'll take you boys to the Canadian National Exhibition and we'll win the prize." There have been the years of practice since, the growing list of engagements and the culmination of that prophecy last Thursday when Charlie Mason and his boys and girls won the top honors at the exhibition. It was a proud day for all of them—a proud day for Acton—another achievement for talent and practice.

Small wonder that when citizens turned out to welcome the group at two o'clock on Friday morning when they returned that Mr. Mason said: "This is the happiest moment of my life."

Through the kindness of friends such as Charlie Landsborough and a member of our family and staff, the news of the achievement was telephoned to Acton immediately after the C.N.E. announcement and the Free Press was able to completely enter the front page make-up and give the picture and news to our readers by four o'clock that afternoon.

We gave you the score of all the bands last week. The Acton Band led the field by a comfortable margin. Coming on the heels of the first place at the Waterloo Festival, there can be no doubt that the bandmaster and group are leaders in the boys' and girls' band groups—even among the larger centres.

Elsewhere in this issue one of the boys has written his impressions of the C.N.E. experience, so our story must be confined to the local scene.

The uncertainty of the time of arrival made welcoming arrangements difficult. But there had to be a welcome no matter what and so every car was halted on Queen Street after midnight and tired and sleepy boys and girls formed up for the parade down town.

It was strictly informal, perhaps a bit ragged in playing and marching, strictly not up to the C.N.E. performance but it was a warm welcome. The traditional bonfire at the corner of Mill and Main Streets greeted the band, they played, Mr. Mason told of his appreciation and the desire of the group for uniforms, all alike. Everybody was happy and the trophy won was proudly displayed. It has since been on exhibit in the Free Press window. It is known as "The Selman Trophy for Intermediate Bands." Acton has another trophy, won by its musicians every one of them resident of town or district led by a local bandmaster.

Looking Back For those away from Acton and for many readers a few facts of those five-years which brought these beginners along to the top may prove interesting. It should be borne in mind that all of the members were taught from the beginning by Mr. Chas. Mason. Some of the instruments were the property of the former Citizen's Band. Many of the players have purchased their own instruments.

Shortly after organization—Acton's Men's Club became sponsors for the band. They have given valuable assistance, arranged the first uniforms for the group and helped finance and carry out various functions and trips for the band. Mention too should be made of the service of Mr. Thos. Ware. We do not know his official position, but it does seem whether it's practice or engagement he is Mr. Mason's right hand man. He is an effective behind the scenes worker without which no organization can succeed.

It might be called to attention too that Charlie Mason's task has been a work of love. He has been paid no salary for his services. Love of music, of boys and girls and of Acton has been his only incentives.

It was the late summer of 1943 at the Fall Fair that Acton Boys' Band began to make appearance at events. They did most of the first playing from a truck. Marching and playing hadn't been developed yet, but we

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Main Laid and Street Construction As Houses Started

Evidence is now available on the approach to and the site of Warline Housing. A visit to the property yesterday afternoon showed the watermain laid on half the property streets and into the property from Wallace Avenue. A bulldozer is at work making the street grade into the property and at the same time filling in the ditches in which the watermain are laid.

On the property lumber and other material have been laid down. The temporary buildings for workmen and storage of materials are being erected with a number already completed. Yesterday locations and foundations were being staked out for the first houses.

Until the roadway is finished materials are being taken to the third lot and through Mr. Duckett's property to the building site.

Many readers in Acton and former residents have asked us to describe the location of Warline Housing, Wallace Avenue which leads from No. 7 highway east of the CNR tracks is being extended past the brick residence built by Mr. Hugh Wallace and occupied by Mr. Geo. Soper for many years. A section of the bush on the Warren Farm now owned by T. Seynuck has been cut through and the little creek crossing will have a new culvert to enclose it. Just east of this continuation of Wallace Avenue is a large lot of 14 acres or more into which the new street will run. This site has a beautiful grove of maples on both the north and south-east sides. The land is level and has fine sandy loam, easily worked and easy to drain.

In a few days the approach will be easier and many can visit the new subdivision. It will not be more than five minutes walk to Mill Street when the approach is finished.

ILLUSTRATIONS FOR FALL ADVERTISING NOW AVAILABLE

The Metro Advertisers Service for fall has arrived and a fine assortment of illustrations for advertisers is now available for this season of the year. There are suggested layouts for local advertisers with illustrations for almost any retail store.

Ask to see the new September service when making up your advertising. There is no extra charge for use of illustrations. There is only one request. Illustrations for use must be secured not later than Monday afternoon of the week in which advertising is scheduled to appear. Ask about the advertising helps and illustrations available at the Free Press Office.

Lorne Scots Band In Second Place At Ex. Competition

Lorne Scots Also Among Those Receiving Highest Points for All Classes

The Lorne Scots Band of Georgetown, which has in its ranks many from Acton and Milton, stood in second place in the Class B competition for bands at the Canadian National Exhibition last Thursday. It failed to attain the first place standing by being below the White Rose Band of Petrolia by half a point.

There were six bands competing in the class in which the Lorne Scots played. The total score obtained by each band in Class B, Section 2, with the prizes received by the top bands, are given below: 1st, the White Rose Band of the Canadian Oil Company, Petrolia, 92½ points, \$350; 2nd, the Lorne Scots Band, Georgetown, 92 points, \$250; 3rd, the Naval Reserve Band, Windsor, 89½ points, \$125; 4th, the Beausville Citizens' Band, 88½ points, \$75; 5th, the Stratford Boys' Band, 84 points; 6th, the Associated Boys' Band of Essex S., 81 points.

The Lorne Scots achieved further honor by being one of the bands to have the highest number of points for all classes. These are the bands receiving highest points: London Technical Concert Band, Class A, 94 points; White Rose Band, Petrolia, Class B, 92½ points; Lorne Scots Band, Georgetown, Class B, 92 points; Ottawa Kingsmen's Brass Band, all brass section 2, 92 points.

BANDMASTER OF WINNERS



Chas. W. Mason, Bandmaster and organizer of Acton Boys' and Girls' Band who brought the group from beginners to winners in 1947 at the Waterloo Musical Festival and last Thursday the winner of the Canadian National Exhibition Contest for Section IV of Intermediate Bands under 21 years of age. Competing against Dundas, Ingersoll and Woodstock they won by a comfortable margin and Bandmaster Mason received the personal congratulations of the adjudicator on his conducting and interpretation.

—Photo by Ross Pearen

Lost Right Hand In Embossing Press At Local Plant

Herbert Dodds, employee of Beardmore & Co., had his right hand so badly crushed in an embossing machine on Tuesday evening that it was found necessary on admission to the Guelph General Hospital, to amputate at the wrist.

The accident happened about 9:30 Tuesday evening. There were several others on the night shift in the department at the time. The machine used for embossing leather has been operated by Mr. Dodds for some time and the accident is hard to account for. Many friends will regret his misfortune and all wish him a prompt recovery.

BAXTER-LAB HELD PICNIC FOR EMPLOYEES AT STANLEY PARK

Last Friday afternoon, August 29th, Baxter Laboratories held a picnic for its employees and for their families at Stanley Park, Erin. The event was a great success and will be carried on as an annual affair in forthcoming years.

One hundred and twenty attended the picnic, most travelling by a chartered bus and others driving in their own cars. The afternoon was spent in various kinds of races which were held for all ages. Winners of all races received prizes, and at the end of the sports program, each child was presented with a special prize. A tug-of-war for the men was another feature of the afternoon.

A delicious cold supper was provided for all of the picnickers. In the evening, men and women joined in a mixed baseball game, and after the game some stayed for the dance at the park. All agreed that the picnic was a decided success.

Walkerton to Play Here on Saturday In O.B.A. Playdowns

Word has been received that Acton Intermediate C team is to meet Walkerton in the O.B.A. playdowns with the first game in Acton on Saturday at 3 p.m. and the return match at Walkerton on Wednesday.

In case of rain, on Saturday the game will be played in Acton on Monday, commencing at 5 p.m. Town and district will be out to cheer the local nine in their effort to bring another championship to Acton in 1947.

Streetsville Man Killed In Crash Saturday Morning

Another Car Crashes As Driver Blinded by Lightning But No Serious Injuries

One person was killed and several persons received minor injuries in two motor car accidents over the week-end in the district, police reported.

Raymond Lamb, 22, of Streetsville, was almost instantly killed when his car was driving rolled over on him early Saturday morning. Three companions, Murray McMillan, 20, Michael Coughlan, 20, and Roy Dowling, 21, all of Streetsville were returning home from Milton where they had been attending the theatre, when their car went out of control on the Base Line about a mile and a half east of Hornby. According to information received by investigating officers, the car, an old model, took to the south ditch. The driver whipped the car back to the roadway, as it veered to the north ditch, throwing Lamb out before the car turned over, pinning him underneath. Coroner Dr. George E. Syer was called and pronounced the young man dead upon arrival. He attributed death to a fractured skull. Dowling received a slight cut on the face. The other two escaped injury.

Provincial Constable Alex McNiven, investigating said the car was not in road-worthy condition. The car suffered \$200 in damages. Crown Attorney W. I. Dick announced that an inquest would be held.

A flash of lightning is believed to have blinded the driver of a second car which crashed into a culvert a half mile south of Milton on Highway 25, about 12:30 a.m. in which four persons narrowly escaped serious injury.

Taking Miss Jean Bellamy, 21, of Stayner to Acton where she was to teach school the following day, the car driven by Charles E. Adams, 28, 82 Doyle Ave., Toronto crashed into the culvert following a flash of lightning. Kenneth Fox, 23, of 23 Lark Ave., owner of the car, received cuts on the head and face. Adams had cuts on the face. Joyce Ortwien, 23, of 606 Shaw St., received slight cuts on her face and Miss Bellamy, bruises and brush burns.

Provincial Constable Alex McNiven following his investigation said the four were taken to the office of Dr. Syer for treatment. All were later allowed to return home, Miss Bellamy returning to Acton by taxi.

Nine billion dollars was spent in U.S.A. in 1946 for liquor.

Acton Wins Intermediate C Title for Halton County

Rachlin's Wins 7-6 from Local 26 In Tuesday's Game

Coming from behind, Rachlin's softball entry led by helmsman Gordon Cook gave the Local 26 squad a run for their reputation in the local loop on Tuesday night. The Union brothers were three up on Benny's boys as the ninth inning rolled around and chances looked slim.

But Cooke had an ace up his sleeve. In their half of the ninth, the Rachlin's scored three runs to tie the game. Cooke went wild along with the team, excitedly patting his proteges multi-shaped and coloured skulls. The Union were heavy favorites as they hovered near the top of the league and Rachlin's had to really push the leather to exact the win.

Incidentally, the triumph left an indelible impression on slim, sly and high, you-know-who. He was observed passing out cigars with obvious delight written all over his countenance the next a.m.

DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE CHAPTER I.O.D.E. HEAR R. M. AYLSWORTH

The September meeting of the Duke of Devonshire Chapter, I.O.D.E. was held at the home of Mrs. Peter Smith. In the absence of the regent, Mrs. Baird, the meeting was in charge of Mrs. F. Blow, 1st Vice Regent. Plans were made for the bazaar to be held on October 18th.

It was suggested that the usual tag day be held on Acton fair day, proceeds of which will be used to send food to Britain. Mention was made of the Acton Boys' and Girls' Band winning first prize in their class at the Canadian National Exhibition, and it was decided to send a letter of appreciation to Mr. Mason, the band leader.

Mr. Aylsworth gave a very interesting and instructive talk on Women's Rights. Mrs. Wolfe expressed the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Aylsworth after which refreshments were served by the hostesses, Mrs. Hassard, Mrs. Grindell, Mrs. Garrett and Miss Garvin.

HEAVY CONSTRUCTION ON SECTION HIGHWAY MILTON TO ACTON

There is much tearing up and cutting down on Highway No. 23 between these road signs that give notice that the road is under construction. The hill at the Hampshire Farm has had the biggest cut made and fill has been

cut into the hollow. From there south to the next blockade, trees and shrubs along the right-of-way have been moved and the fences put back about seventeen feet. The highway will have full clearance width. In the meantime our advice is to keep the signs and take the detour. There is little of the road that has been left intact even where cutting has not been done.

Gregory Theatres Have been Sold to Odeon Theatres

New Theatres to be Built in Acton and Oakville—Mr. Gregory 37 Years in Show Business

Odeon Theatres of Canada Limited, announce the acquisition of the Gregory Theatres in Oakville, Georgetown and Acton from Russell L. Gregory, effective September 15th, 1947.

Included in the transaction is the acquisition of a site in Oakville owned by Mr. Gregory on which the company is erecting a new 750 seat theatre; work to commence this fall.

"Another aspect of the deal is the covenant by Gregory to erect a new theatre in Acton on the lot he owns opposite his present theatre.

Russel Gregory is a well-known Ontario showman who has been in business for thirty-seven years in these three towns. His son, Leslie, was also well-known in the theatre business in Hamilton and Brantford. Mr. Gregory is retiring from the theatre business. Many of us will recall that Mr. Gregory started in the motion picture business at what was known as the Wonderland Theatre in Acton. From Acton he branched out to Oakville and Georgetown and made a splendid success by enterprise and strict attention to business. Many friends here will wish for both him and Mrs. Gregory many happy years in which to enjoy leisure away from business.

Final Game with Georgetown on Saturday was Win 12-6 with Acton Leading for Entire Game—Acton Picked off 17 Hits from Scottie Patterson's Offerings—Will now go into O.B.A. Playdowns.

In so far as Georgetown was concerned, it was more a case of how many runs the Acton Intermediate nine would chalk up before nine frames were completed last Saturday. The triple A club launched an all out offensive on helmsman "Scottie" Patterson which blossomed into a 17 hit effort and exact info. The Ontario players with their 12-6 victory.

Out of a possible five games, it took four to squelch the Papertown outfit. Now the locals have a title which can have attention—1947 Intermediate 'C' Champions of Halton County. Georgetown went down swinging as it was generally conceded they would after "Pete" Chaban was sighted delivering out the mound and with the exception of Patterson, generally gave up the ghost. Chaban hurled one of his better games with 11 hits well scattered. Patterson looked like a thunder cloud as he rolled the agates to the waiting Acton hickory.

He tried every possible strategy even an intentional walk in order to soothe the local batsmen. The walk was to "Dooney" Evans, an old pal and team mate. But seventeen safeties belittled his efforts. "Dang" Kentner, Jr., with a triple and a dust of two singles, Norm Martin with three singles and Evans with a double and a couple of singles were bothersome to say nothing of Bob Footitt in a blasting mood.

Acton garnered four runs in the first inning on three hits and remained scoreless until the fourth. The opposition, Georgetown, caught a run in the opener and tied the game in the third with a trio of tallies on four bingles. From there in, it was Acton all the way.

Two singularly effective frames were the sixth and ninth. Kentner sparked in each of these. In the sixth with a double which drove in two runs and in the final came through with a long ball which boomed over the right fielder's head and netted him a triple and drove in two more runs. In both cases he scored himself as Footitt blasted a path with the spherical.

Errors and passed balls contributed to the local victory. Ritchie on the third sack made some wild throws to first and muffed two drives down the sack line.

Box Score: R. H. E. Acton 400-104-003-12-17-1 Georgetown 103-002-000-6-10-3

THE ROBINSON-HERRINGTON WEDDING LAST WEEK IN GEORGETOWN PARSONAGE

On Wednesday, August 27th, at the United Church parsonage, Georgetown, Kathleen Norma Herrington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Corey Herrington of Stewarttown, was united in marriage with Lloyd Albert Robinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Robinson of Acton, Rev. R. C. Todd officiating. The bride wore a white corded suit with corsage of red roses. Her sister, Miss Marjorie Herrington, who attended her, wore a rose silk jersey dress with corsage of roses. Mr. Herwin McPhail of Acton was groomsmen.

Following the ceremony, the young couple received with their parents at Sunset Farm, the home of the bride's parents. They left for a honeymoon trip to Hamilton, Niagara Falls and Buffalo, the bride travelling in a Royal blue suit with white accessories. They will take up residence in Acton.

SCHOOLS GLEAMING AS PUPILS RETURN TO STUDIES TUESDAY

Schools re-opened on Tuesday and Carolee Geo. Mann had the classrooms in excellent condition for the return of the scholars, floors, windows, rooms and hallways were bright and shining.

Only confusion was in grade I where construction work has been in progress. The new class room was ready and furnished except for the lower half of the window sash. It is bright and comfortable and will be heated by oil burning space units now installed.

Additional windows were built in the other room used for Grade I and the lower sashes are awaited here too. It has been painted and brightened and will be in use by the end of week.

Just now the impossible is necessary. Peanuts are called ground nuts in England.