

# The Acton Free Press.

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ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1949

Eight Home Print Pages—Six Cents

## Town Foreman and Chief of Police Engaged

### No More Municipal Officer as Duties are Re-arranged—Chief Harrop Accepts Position of Head of Police and Assessor—A. Kirkness will be Town Foreman—Lawmower Question Unsolved—Council Decides Against Provincial Police

Acton Council met on Thursday evening with Councillors W. J. McLeod, A. McEachern, F. Davison and Deputy-Reeve W. Coon present and Reeve F. J. McCutcheon presiding.

A request for rebate of Poll Tax was refused.

Correspondence was read regarding the plan and subdivision of land on the Hutt farm. The Clerk and Solicitor Leatherland were to go to the Department of Planning in an effort to settle this plan.

Mr. W. D. Talbot was present to confer with Council regarding the purchase of the lawn mower which had been ordered and delivery had not been made until after another mower had been purchased and put into service. The matter was left over to the next regular meeting, after over an hour's discussion and little co-operation on either side.

Seven applications were received for the position of Town Foreman at salaries ranging from \$2,000 per year to \$2,500 per year.

The application of A. Kirkness at a salary of \$2,100 per year was accepted with duties to commence on September 7th and the Clerk was empowered to pay the salary twice a month. Mr. Kirkness was contacted and came to the meeting when duties and arrangement were frankly discussed.

Council gave further consideration to police protection for Acton and the engaging of Provincial police for the work or continuing the present arrangement of engaging police. A comparison of costs showed that the Provincial arrangement was much more costly.

Inquiry has been made in other communities where Provincial Police were in charge and it was found that it would require several thousand dollars more under this plan, than under local management. Hiring of Provincials did not solve the question of assessing, collection of dog and poll tax, issuing of licenses, inspection of buildings and many other small duties that were now combined in the one office.

Council accepted the tender of the Acton Auto Body for \$125 to repair the town truck as outlined in their tender.

Council by resolution accepted the resignation of E. E. Harrop as Municipal Officer, the resignation to take effect August 31st.

Council instructed the Clerk to dispose of the by-laws engaging the Provincial Police which had been prepared for this meeting.

By resolution Mr. E. E. Harrop was engaged as Police Chief and Assessor said duties to include collection of Poll Tax and Dog Tax and being Building Inspector, Relief Officer and issue Tobacco Licenses and Milk Licenses. Duties to commence Sept. 1st 1948 at a salary of \$2,500 per year.

It might be interesting to citizens to realize the tremendous duties Mr. Harrop has carried the past nine years. As the town has grown each of them has been heavier. During the discussion Mr. Harrop was asked to enumerate his various duties as Municipal Officer. Twelve were listed and we know there are more. However under the new arrangement these responsibilities will be divided roughly as follows:

Mr. Harrop—Chief of Police, Assessor, Building Inspector, Relief Officer, Issuer of Tobacco and Milk Licenses, and Collector of Poll and Dog Tax.

Mr. A. Kirkness—Town Supervisor in charge of the Municipal Truck, all work on streets, charge of the Park and Town Hall, Weed Inspector and arrange for servicing the Arena such as full supplies and equipment.

The by-law regulating the collection of garbage and contract with Geo. K. McLellan was read as required and passed by the Council. The contract was for one year.

Council adjourned shortly before midnight.

For 14 years after World War I, the Group of Seven painted rugged and out-of-the-way Canadian scenes, abandoning the literal interpretation of art for an imaginative style that created much criticism.

## LADIES AID OF KNOX CHURCH HOLD PICNIC AT DAVIDSON'S

Knox Church Ladies' Aid enjoyed another picnic at the beautiful farm home of Mrs. and Mrs. R. L. Davidson.

Even though a grain threshing bee was in full swing at the barn, it did not in any way disturb the kind hospitality of Mrs. Davidson who managed affairs in the house, even with the unfortunate lack of electricity, and still found time for the entertainment of the picnicers.

All enjoyed the full program of games and contests arranged by our capable sports committee, Mrs. Fred Anderson, Mrs. Dodds and Mrs. O'Hara.

Winners in the various events were:

Bean Guessing—Mrs. A. M. McPherson, Marjorie Hall.

Bag Throwing—Mrs. Geo. Ritchie, Mrs. Janey.

Kicking Shoe—Mrs. Dodds, Mrs. Geo. Sommerville.

Time Race—Marjorie Hall, Mrs. R. Patterson.

Spool Race—Mrs. Fred McCutcheon, Mrs. Geo. Ritchie.

Alphabet Game—Mrs. D. Kennedy, Minnie Sommerville and Mrs. F. Denny.

Spoon and Bean—Mrs. Ruby Hansen, Mrs. W. McEachern.

Clothes Pins—Mrs. McIntyre, Mrs. McLellan.

Grandmothers' Special—Mrs. Akitt, Mrs. Patterson.

Mystery Musical—Mrs. McPherson, Mrs. McLellan, Mrs. Patterson.

Mrs. W. J. Hall moved a vote of thanks to Mrs. Davidson, the sports committee, and all those who helped to make the picnic a success.

## Week-End Car Crashes Just East of Acton

### Car and Truck Involved But None of Occupants Seriously Injured

There were two smash-ups involving three cars and a truck on the highway east of Acton over the week-end, and almost in the same location.

On Saturday night a car driven by Jos. P. Lee of 114 Glenmount Ave. Toronto was going east. As he met a truck travelling west his left rear tire blew out and his car was thrown out of control, crashed the left side of the truck and rolled into the ditch on the north side of the Highway.

The truck was owned by A. C. Duff Products of Bolton and driven by Fred C. Tarzwell of Hillsburg. The drivers and the four passengers in the car all escaped serious injury. Damage to the car is estimated at about \$300.

Three on Sunday

Sunday night a truck and two cars were involved in an accident opposite the Morrison farm two miles east of Acton. One car was a total wreck and damage to the other car was estimated at \$250.

A truck driven by Arthur Vine of Acton and owned by the Mount Dennis Construction Co. was travelling east when the lights on the vehicle failed. It was driven to the side of the road and stopped. A car following driven by Bruce Norrie of the Ninth line near Georgetown followed and failed to see the vehicle. It struck the rear corner, swung around and landed in the ditch. Earl Beerman, 17, of Georgetown a passenger sustained injuries to his forehead and nose. The car is described as a total wreck.

By this time a lantern had been placed on the rear end of the truck and another motorist had stopped to give assistance. A second car travelling east and driven by James Low, 97 Hudson Drive, Toronto, failed to heed the warning of a flashlight or to notice the lantern on the rear of the truck. There were two other passengers in the car but none of the occupants were injured.

Damage to the Low car is estimated at \$250.00 and the driver will likely face a careless driving charge.

Provincial Constable Ray Mason investigated both of the accidents.

## TWO CARS IN COLLISION WITH TRUCK



Photos show two of the passenger cars which collided with a truck on the highway two miles east of Acton about midnight on Sunday. Failure of the lights on the truck to light up the roadside. First accident happened before a light could be placed and second rear-end collision was after a lantern had been put on the truck and other motorists used flashlights as a warning. The second car drove under the body and struck the truck frame.

## Another Acton Golfer Gets Hole in One at Guelph

That elusive hole-in-one was achieved by another Acton golfer player at the Cullen Fields in Guelph last Wednesday. Ted Force was the player this time and incidentally of the three this season at Cullen Fields, two of the players are Actonians—W. K. Graham and E. S. Force.

Ted was playing with G. Jarratt, Art Forbes and Will Howard and the shot was fired on the 110 yard eleventh hole using a No. 8 iron. It's rather an exclusive group of golfers who have a hole in one shot and it's unique that two from Acton should accomplish it in the one season.

## FASHION SHOW PACKS THE ROXY LAST THURSDAY

The Fashion Show arranged by the Ros-Ann Shop in Acton in connection with its formal opening packed the Roxy Theatre last Thursday evening. Professional models displayed the latest styles in fall dresses and coats and the ladies particularly enjoyed the special feature of the Roxy Theatre.

A very fine picture was presented on the screen and the fashion show came between the showing of this feature.

## \$192 MISSING AFTER STRANGER AT SERVICE STATION

Cash of \$192 is believed to have been stolen from Hargrave's Service Station on Tuesday morning about 11.15. Mr. Hargrave had prepared his bank deposit and when customers came in had tucked the books and money away to serve them. A stranger came in while he was busy and left again without being noticed.

When the bank deposit was taken out again \$192 was missing and only \$14 left in the book. Chief Harrop is investigating but apparently there are still little or no clues.

## NIGHT BLOOMING CACTUS HAD SIX FINE FLOWERS

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Wilds of Vineland have one of those rare night blooming cactus which this year had six splendid blooms on July 7th. The flowers in this Queen Cactus which is eighteen years old start to open in the afternoon, reach full bloom about midnight and are dead by the next morning. About seventy-five friends called to see the plant in bloom and we saw a splendid photo of the plant.

## JUNIOR FARMERS' BALL CLUB WINS FROM ROCKWOOD

On Tuesday night the Acton Junior Farmers' softball team defeated Rockwood 9-3 in their return game. Mr. B. D. Rachlin is sponsoring and providing equipment for the Acton boys this year.

Out of fifteen games played, the team has ten games to their credit. They have two games arranged with Gilsons of Guelph for next week. Tuesday night in Guelph and Thursday night in the Acton park.

## MRS. T. NELLE WAS SPEAKER AT BANNOCKBURN W. I.

Bannockburn Women's Institute held their regular monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. T. Gordon and were addressed by Mrs. T. Nelle recently returned from a trip by plane to England.

Mrs. Nelle told many interesting things regarding the splendid air accommodation, instructions for emergency landing and food and clothing in her home land.

Mrs. Jolley thanked Mrs. Nelle for her visit and a talk that was much enjoyed by all. Mrs. D. A. Russell was appointed delegate to the Annual convention at Guelph. Plans were made for the Institute display at the Fall Fair. Exhibits will be in charge of Mrs. W. Roszell.

Lunch was served and a social time enjoyed.

Mexican draftees combine mechanical farm work with their year military training.

## Another Building For Main Street Garage Property

Work commenced this week on a new garage building in Acton by N. McEachern on Main Street. Last Thursday the old garage building was demolished. This week the basement for the front section has been excavated and the footings laid for the office.

The building will be of cement block with brick front and is 41x60 feet. There will be an apartment over the front section which will not likely be completed this week. Mr. McEachern has most of the material already on the ground and expects to have the walls up and roof on in a few weeks.

New gas tanks of larger capacity have been installed and in the meantime business is being carried on in a small building at the rear of the lot, until the new structure is ready.

## VARIED PROGRAM AT AUGUST MEETING GREENOCK INSTITUTE

The August meeting of Greenock Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. J. E. Pearen on Wednesday, August 18, with eighteen members, four visitors and twelve children present. Mrs. A. McKeown presided. The Scripture was read by Mrs. T. Hensley. The Roll Call was answered by "My Favourite Flower". The minutes of last meeting were read by the Secretary Mrs. Basil Johnston. Ways of making money for the branch were discussed. Miss Elva Penren was chosen as delegate to the Area Convention to be held at O.A.C. Guelph. The Motto—Giving not getting makes life richer was well given by Mrs. Thos. McCutcheon. Current events were given by Mrs. J. L. Allan.

The topic of the afternoon, "Citizenship" was taken most ably by Mrs. Gordon Leslie con-venor, who gave a very interesting paper. Miss Maria Allan of Toronto sang two solos which were much enjoyed. Lunch was served and a pleasant afternoon brought to a close.

## 15 Cars Wrecked and 20 Cattle Killed on C.N.R.

### FRIENDS SHOWER GIFTS ON BRIDE OF THIS WEEK

Prior to her marriage which takes place this week, Miss Shirley Duval has been entertained at a number of showers.

On Thursday, August 19th at the home of Mrs. S. Papillon she was the recipient of many lovely gifts at a miscellaneous shower. The office girls of Boardman & Co. entertained in her honour Monday evening with a kitchen shower at the home of Miss Alice McCallum.

Mrs. G. Hamacher was hostess at her home in Waterloo at a cup and saucer shower on Tues. August 24th and the Young Ladies' Sodality of St. Joseph's Church met at the home of Miss Eveleen Brada Wednesday evening and held her with a miscellaneous Shower.

### The Savoy government's publishing house is printing the works of Dickens and Walter Scott.

## Council Grants Increases to the Town Constables

### Requisition of High School Board Approved—Band Grants Passed

Councillors W. McLeod, A. McEachern and F. Davison and Deputy-Reeve Wm. Coon were present last night when Acton Council met in September session and Reeve F. J. McCutcheon presided. In the absence of Clerk McGeachie the acting clerk was Mr. Leatherland. Mr. O. Johnston on behalf of the Acton Fair Board requested that a permanent installation of hydro be made in the Park. It was arranged that Messrs. O. Johnston, J. J. Stewart, W. McLeod, F. Davison and C. Wilson would meet at the park on Thursday to consider this installation.

Mr. C. Mason, bandmaster of Acton Boys' and Girls' Band discussed with Council the regulations required for payment of the band grant. Half of the grant of \$234.53 was paid at this time.

Town Foreman A. Kirkness was given an outline of work that required immediate attention. The Clerk was instructed to notify A. Harris and A. Clifford town employees that on and after September 7th A. Kirkness would be in charge of all employees and instructions would be received from the town foreman.

Accounts were passed for payment as follows:

Stewart Elliott sand and gravel	\$440.00
Boardman & Co power mower	574.00
Canadian Photo Co.	
Photostats	13.45
Acton Free Press, printing	10.21
Insulin Treatments	.78
Acton Boys' and Girls' Band half grant	234.53
	\$1278.97

Constables C. Gibbons and G. Allan requested an increase in salary. They felt that the present salary of \$1800 was inadequate under present living conditions.

Council decided by resolution to increase the salaries of Constables Gibbons and Allan by \$100 per year to make their salaries \$1900 per annum effective Sept. 1st.

Council received the requisition for the year from the North Halton High School District Board. The total levy for Acton this year is \$2,588.68. The Secretary pointed out that a requisition for part of the amount would soon be made. By resolution the Reeve and Treasurer were authorized to make payment when requested.

Donald McLean protested a tax on a dog that had been disposed of after assessor had called. The request was not granted.

The Clerk read copies of by-laws from other municipalities which regulated the hours of sale for operators of service stations and retailers of petroleum products. The matter was referred back to the garage operators for a petition of their requirements.

The resolution passed at a previous meeting relative to the engaging of Provincial Police was rescinded.

### Worst Wreck in District Piled Right-of-Way Early Tuesday Morning—Cars and Cargo Rolled Down Embankment at Georgetown—Twenty Head of Cattle Killed—Two of Crew are Injured.

Only two were injured on Wednesday morning when two freight trains collided at 5.30 at Georgetown to pile up one of the biggest wrecks that has been seen in this district. Twenty cattle were killed in the two cars or had to be destroyed, and about fifteen cars were derailed, piled-up and their contents strewn over the railway tracks.

All travel on the line from Toronto to Stratford was suspended on Wednesday as well as the line north and south from Barrie to Hamilton and through Milton. Engineers Harry Hendrick suffered a broken ankle and fireman Leonard Patry was badly cut about the hands and face. Both were taken to hospital. Both jumped just before the crash after the brakes had been slammed on and a collision was seen unavoidable.

The accident occurred about 5.30. It appears that the caboose and several freight cars were standing on the main line in Georgetown just west of the station, while the engine was taking on water.

Another freight of about thirty cars followed this one going east and failed to see the red light on the caboose to avoid a collision. The engine plowed into the caboose telescoping the car and derailling and wrecking about fifteen other cars. The wreckage was so piled up that it was difficult to single out the cars for counting.

Many of the cattle in the two cars were killed outright, while a dozen were so badly injured that they had to be shot. One poor animal was seen limping away with one leg gone and was disposed of. The uninjured animals were wandering about town and various gardens before they were rounded up. The railway tracks and siding were torn up for over 200 feet.

The railway where the accident occurred has quite an embankment. Several homes adjoin the right-of-way.

Two little children were asleep in a tent not more than fifteen feet from where part of the wrecked train crashed down the steep bank. Their father reported that they had moved their tent away from the track the night before as they thought it would be better in its new location.

The noise of the crash was described by nearby residents as similar to heavy thunder. The fire siren sounded shortly after and many thought an explosion had occurred. The Georgetown brigade confined the fire to one car which caught fire right after the collision.

The engine and cars of the train did not leave the track and the car immediately behind the tender had a large sign on each side "Eggs—Handle with Care". It was the best preserved car in the heaps of rubble but we fear for the condition of the eggs.

Traffic resumed early this morning with the midnight train from Toronto being the first train through. Normal passenger, mail and express train service has now been established past the scene of the wreck.

### DEFINITIONS

Pedestrian—A man who has a wife, a daughter, two sons, a dog and an automobile.

Time—Something that the hero has the knack of arriving in the nick of.

Chiseler—A man who gets in a revolving door behind you and comes out first.

### Coming Events

Announcements of Meetings, Concerts, or Other Events, under this heading, are charged, to cents per line, with a minimum charge for any announcements of 30 cents.

Duke of Devonshire Chapter I.O.G.E. meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Peter Smith, September 7.

Barn Dance at Claude Pickett's Farm, Seventh Line, 14 miles north of Hornby, Tuesday, Sept. 7th. Modernaires Orchestra. Admission 50c. Bif