

# The Acton Free Press.

Seventy-Sixth Year.—No. 33.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd, 1951

Eight Home Print Pages—Six Cents

## ACTON'S 1951 TAX RATE 43 MILLS

### New Fire Truck Pumper; School Estimate Lowered

Acton's mill rate for 1951 was established at 43 mills, an increase of nine mills over last year's rate, when council accepted the report given by Ives J. Hargrave, chairman of the Finance Committee, at the regular council meeting last Friday evening.

Council considered the estimates prepared by the Finance Committee after approximately 20 hours work on the part of that committee. Mayor E. Tyler commended the committee for the completeness of the report.

It was found necessary to raise \$56,648.61 by taxation for 1951. Increases in expenditures were made necessary by the addition of costs for sewerage installation and other increased amounts. More complete details may be found in the report published in this issue.

Representatives of La France Fire Engine and Pomme, C. E. Hickey and Seagrave and Bickell and Seagrave presented estimates and detailed information to council for consideration in the purchase of a new fire truck pumper and equipment.

Formal proposals were submitted by La France and Hickey and the clerk was instructed to contact Bickell and Seagrave for a formal proposal so the three could be considered. Council decided to call for tenders locally for a 3 ton chassis on which the fire equipment could be mounted. Specifications were to be prepared by the Fire Committee.

A letter from the Studebaker Corporation said they could do nothing towards fixing the present fire truck engine and chassis.

Mayor Tyler reported that Beardmore and Co. felt the town's responsibility for the dredging of the creek owing to siltling presuaded to have been caused by installation of sewers was 50 per cent, for dredging from the Wool Combing bridge through the swale and 100 per cent, from the town property line to the Wool Combing bridge.

Council felt its responsibility was 50 per cent of the dredging costs from the Beardmore fence at the town line to the Wool Combing bridge. The Property Committee was appointed to make arrangements for repairs at the dam erected by the town to serve as a settling basin during the installation of the sewers and help curtail siltling of this creek.

A guaranteed completion date of May 30 was given by Jones and Van Gils for the erection of the new pumping station on the site of the recently drilled well north of Acton. Council would accept the wire cut brick rather than smooth red brick and glass brick windows rather than steel sash to allow the contractor to guarantee this completion date.

Council received a letter from the Ontario Fire Marshall's office regarding the damage caused by the fire equipment inspection of the Underwriter's Association late last year. The letter pointed out that the municipality was not compelled to submit to the inspection but a refusal would probably mean an increase in insurance rates. The Fire Marshall said a pressure at the hydrant of 100 lbs. was not uncommon. Application of this pressure during the test resulted in a number of broken domestic services.

Council received an answer from (Continued on Page Eight)

### Interesting Quiz At WMS Meeting

The Women's Missionary Society of the United Church was held at the home of Mrs. R. Arnold on Tuesday with a good attendance. The president, Mrs. M. Z. Bennett, presided.

During the worship service Mrs. J. H. Thomson and her group held a quiz on courts of divisions on Japan. The questions were answered by Miss Bennett, Mrs. J. Lambert, Mrs. F. Cleave and Mrs. D. Simmons. Very interesting, the quiz brought out some very good points. A poem was read by Mrs. A. T. Brown.

Very satisfactory reports were given for the Baby Band by Mrs. Cannon; Mission Band, Mrs. MacArthur; Christian Stewardship, Mrs. J. H. Thomson, and Community Friendship, Mrs. F. Cleave.

The C.I.T. planned for a meeting to be held at Mrs. Bilson's and one at Mrs. Lang's.

Mrs. Selwood gave a talk on the book shelf and books were given out to those who cared to have them. This is an added feature in the W.M.S. here and members hope to carry it through.

Sympathy is extended to Mrs. B. Veldhuis through the removal by death of her mother in Holland, to Mrs. E. L. Johnson whose daughter Mrs. Overholser is seriously ill in Toronto, to Mrs. Caldwell and also Miss Mainprize who was able to return home from hospital.

Congratulations were extended by members of the W.M.S. to Mrs. P. A. Smith on her 90th birthday.

Mrs. A. T. Brown was appointed Corresponding Secretary. The president closed the meeting with prayer.

Lunch was served by Mrs. Thomson and her group and a social half hour was enjoyed.

A vote of thanks was given to Mrs. Arnold for her home and the lunch group and Mrs. Thomson and her worship service quiz.

**FINED \$10, COSTS FOLLOWING ACCIDENT; FIVE OTHERS FINED IN COURT**

Involved in an accident near Acton on Saturday, January 27th, George Williamson pleaded guilty of careless driving in court in Acton Tuesday. He was fined \$10 and costs.

Two men who were arrested on Friday evening for drunkenness were each fined \$10 and costs. One of these men was also fined \$10 and costs for having liquor in his possession.

Three other men were also fined in court here for having liquor in a place other than their dwelling.

### Historical Items Read WI Members

Dublin Women's Institute met at the home of Mrs. W. D. Barber with Mrs. Watkins in charge. The minutes of the last meeting and correspondence were read. Expressions of thanks were given for cards and boxes. A donation was to be sent to the Halton Musical Festival and the March of Dimes. Arrangements were made to hold a booth at Storey Bros. sale on March 1st.

Mrs. Van Goozen, convenor of historical research, was chairman for the program and read a clipping "Old recipes and recollections." Roll call was answered by some historical event concerning each member's farm.

Mrs. G. Robertson read a history of No. 9 Bloomsbury School prepared by Mrs. Darby. Mrs. N. Anderson told of the first Sunday School at Ebenezer. Mrs. Ferguson read many old superstitions of the noon. Mrs. W. Britton read the names of several people who had attended Dublin School. Mrs. J. Dennis read a quotation from Mrs. Sewell on her childhood days and shared recollections of her own childhood days spent at the place of meeting. Mrs. McIntyre told of people who had attended No. 9 school. Mrs. Near brought an atlas of Nassagaweya which proved very interesting. Mrs. M. Storey told many stories of the Rainy River district, her former home.

Mrs. G. Robertson conducted a very interesting musical concert with awards going to Mrs. M. Storey and Mrs. VanGoozen.

Lunch was served by the committee, and a social hour enjoyed.

### Halton Health Unit Advises Flu Sense

There has been so much publicity in the press and on the radio about the "flu" that little new can be said other than to straighten out some of the false information and allay some of the fears, the Halton County Health Unit reports.

It is true that there is a widespread outbreak of respiratory infection and that, in some cases, the disease organism causing it is the same as seen in the recent outbreak in England. On the other hand, the disease bears little resemblance to the killer of 1918. It is usually runs its course in about three days without complications. As in most other respiratory diseases, it is more severe in the very young and the very old.

All parts of the county are affected but Oakville was hit first and hardest. This is natural when one considers the number of commuters travelling daily to Toronto and exposed to infection there.

The question of closing schools, churches, theatres and other places of assembly arises. Any control measure taken must be so valuable that the inconvenience caused is counterbalanced by the disease being brought under control. It is very questionable whether such closings would affect the spread of the disease.

In fact, in regard to schools, absenteeism has not reached any critical level. Using Oakville as an example, on Monday, February 19th about 15 per cent of the pupils and 5 per cent of the teachers were absent, not a great deal higher than one would normally expect at this time of year. It is better to keep the children at school under supervision than to turn them loose to gather in other places where there would be no control. Certainly, we should all avoid needless contacts with crowds but we should not panic and disrupt our normal lives.

If this "flu" does strike, the family physician should be called. This is important to prevent complications. One should go to bed at the first symptom; this will not only protect the patient but will help protect others by preventing spread.

The Halton County Health Unit is cancelling its Child Health Clinics for this week. The babies attending these clinics are not likely to be exposed in their own homes while if they attended clinics in contact with many other adults and children, their chance of exposure would be greatly increased. Just as soon as the incidence of disease begins to abate the Child Health Clinics will be resumed.

### Condition Serious After Bad Accident

Very seriously injured in Norman Douglas, R. R. 4, Acton, after his panel truck left No. 25 highway just south of Speyside, hit a snowbank and then left the ground; to fold up against an elm tree. The accident was discovered about 2:45 a.m. Tuesday night by Fred Shepherd, R. R. 6, Milton, who was returning home from work in Acton.

The provincial police were called and Mr. Douglas was removed by ambulance to Guelph General Hospital where his condition is reported as serious from the only injury received, a fractured skull.

The truck, a new 1950 Ford panel, went out of control at the first curve below Speyside and went off the road. Fire marks show where the vehicle left the ground with one tire mark 15 feet and the other about 40 feet from the tree which abruptly halted the truck.

In the back of the truck was a large fire and wheel marks along the top of the truck show where the tire was forced forward by the impact. This tire probably struck Mr. Douglas fracturing his skull.

Mr. Sheppard, after discovering the accident, obtained help from Mr. Robert Dredge. The pair did what they could for the injured man and called the Provincial Police at Milton. Dr. J. A. Palmer of Milton attended Mr. Douglas who was then taken by ambulance to Guelph General Hospital. He had not regained consciousness at the last report.

The damage to the truck was estimated at up to \$1000 with the front end completely wrecked.

### OBITUARY

#### Funeral Feb. 19 For Jas. Walter Lamb

On Monday, February 19th James Walter Lamb of Moffat was laid to rest in the cemetery of Nassagaweya Presbyterian Church. He died suddenly on Feb. 16 Mr. Lamb was born in Nassagaweya in 1891, and was married there in 1915. Mr. Lamb leaves his wife, Mrs. Irene Lamb, and three children, Mrs. Mac McLaughlin (Lucille), R. R. 2, Kitchener; Mrs. Hazel Mickus Georgetown and Mr. Leslie Lamb, R. R. 2, Preston. Surviving are also three brothers, Edward, British Columbia; George, New York, and Bert, Campbellville, and four sisters, Mrs. F. Finkbeiner (Lena), Guelph; Mrs. J. Brown (Minnie), Toronto; Mrs. E. Dredge (Thelma), Campbellville; and Mrs. S. Lathon (Catherine), Chicago.

The funeral service was conducted by Rev. Sutherland Pullar, officiating. Burial was in the Mackenzie cemetery. Interment was in the Mackenzie cemetery.

### OBITUARY

#### Biology Specialist District Native

Several from this vicinity journeyed to London last Thursday to attend the funeral of the late Professor Albert G. Robertson. Successful in the field of biology, having founded that department at the University of Western Ontario, he retired in 1940 after 30 years of service.

Mr. Robertson was a native of Erin Township, a son of the late Douglas and Katherine Robertson. In youth he attended Ospringe Public School, the secondary schools of Georgetown and Guelph and later he graduated from the University of Toronto. Early in his career, he taught for short periods in Cedarvale and Everton and for a time in Mantoloking.

Many will remember him for his integrity and for his hand clasp, a firm grip when greeting his friends.

He was predeceased by his wife, the former Laura May Black and by his son, James Albert in the 2nd World War. His son, John Duncan Robertson of London, survives, also a granddaughter, Susan Heather Robertson of Sidney, Nova Scotia.

### HAND MADE PRIZES ARE SPECIAL FEATURE OF ARTS AND CRAFTS CARD PARTY

Original and attractive prizes were a special feature of the euchre and bridge held at the Y last Wednesday evening, sponsored by the Arts and Crafts Club of Acton. The members of the club contributed articles they had made themselves for the winners.

In the games of bridge, the men's first prize, a billfold, was won by Mel Schroeder and men's second, a keycase, by Fred Salt. Mrs. Don Wiggins won the first prize for the ladies, a hand toled charge purse and Mrs. Frank Heller won the ladies' second prize, a hand woven towel. The travelling prize, a hammered tea pot stand, was taken by Mrs. Charles Heller and Mrs. Leatherland won the lucky prize, an oil painting done by one of the members of the art class.

The first prize for euchre, won by Mrs. William Evans, was a leather card case. The second prize, a hand woven towel, was won by Mrs. Ken Fryer. The lucky prize for lone hands, a delicate shell brooch, was awarded Mrs. Charles Kirkness.

After the games of cards, those present enjoyed plentiful refreshments.

### Lakeside Chapter Enjoys Tour Films

The regular and annual meeting of the Lakeside Chapter I.O.O.F. was held in the Legion rooms on Tuesday evening, February 13 with the Regent, Mrs. Hazel Orr in the chair.

The secretary's report was read and adopted and the roll call answered. Correspondence was read and the treasurer's report given. Mrs. Alice Runley and Miss Elma Brigid volunteered to act as a transportation committee to go to Guelph to see Queen Mary's carpet. A small gift was to be purchased for Mr. Clayton for auditing the books.

The Chapter is to attend a church service in the United Church on Sunday, February 18 to commemorate Founders' Day.

Mrs. Verna Bean read an article on how the I.O.F.E. was founded. An instrumental by Miss Margaret Brown was enjoyed by all. The regular meeting was adjourned and the various reports of the different secretaries and convenors of committees were given at the annual meeting.

Mrs. Orr thanked the members for their help during her two years as Regent. Mrs. Margaret Creighton moved a vote of thanks to Mrs. Orr for her leadership as Regent during the year.

Following are the officers for 1951: Honorary regent, Mrs. Hazel Orr; regent, Mrs. Margaret Creighton; 1st vice-regent, Mrs. Verna Bean; 2nd vice-regent, Mrs. Mary Hinton; recording secretary, Mrs. May Dumarch; assistant, Mrs. Doris Wilson; standard bearer, Mrs. Hazel Orr; assistant, Mrs. Phyllis Mackie; pianist, Mrs. Helen Pickett; assistant, Mrs. Marie Heard; treasurer, Miss Jean Harris; assistant, Miss Julie Lesniwicz; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Mary Bradley; Echoes secretary, Miss Elma Brigid; educational secretary, Mrs. Ella Wood; assistants, Mrs. Helen Waterhouse, Mrs. Mary McKenzie; world of affairs and current events, Mrs. Emily Wallace, Miss "Eva" Dooren; publicity, Mrs. Dora Ryder; flower and visiting, Mrs. Gladys McKersie, Mrs. Marguerite Taylor; cap convenor, Mrs. Hazel Leishman; welfare, Mesdames Mary Marks, Helen Middleton, Jean Leishman, Lena Mann; film convenor, Mrs. Helen Otterbein; membership, Mesdames Vera Inglis, Oral Norton; councillors, Mesdames Alice Langford, Charlotte Holmes, Harriet Helwig, Ethel Fryer, Ren Watson, Ethel Harris, Dorothy Van Wyck, Kay Hansen, Gladys Price, Miss Margaret Brown; post war work, Mesdames Jane Gamble, Merle Ryman.

Mr. Orland Robbins, principal of Acton High School, showed two films on his recent trip to Europe, one on England and one on Germany.

Miss Josephine McPhail rendered a vocal solo. Lunch was served and a social half hour enjoyed.

In 1948 Canada's steam railways carried more than 38 million passengers.

### Baxter Laboratories to Remain in Acton Plant

For some months there have been disquieting rumors that Baxter Laboratories of Canada Limited, who are located in Acton, have been viewing locations in Ontario with a view to building a new plant. As a matter of fact such is the case and officials of the company have visited numerous locations in the province both north and south of Acton.

"Trava News", the employees' own newspaper, released the news yesterday morning that the plant is not moving from Acton. We quote from "Trava":

### Auction Clothing At Guild Meeting

The February meeting of St. Alban's Guild was held at the home of Mrs. F. G. Oakes on Wednesday, Feb. 7th. Twenty four members were present.

The meeting opened with the Guild prayer. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved, followed by a lively business discussion.

The main business on hand was the task of raising money to help finance the new parish hall. Several members had already completed their projects and added considerably to the building fund. Some very worthwhile suggestions were made, by which the fund could be further enlarged.

Two members brought good used children's clothing to the meeting and the president conducted a very successful auction of the articles. The date was set for the annual Spring Tea and Bazaar. After all business was attended to, the meeting closed with prayer.

A tasty lunch was served by the hostess, assisted by Mrs. C. Cook and Mrs. C. F. Leatherland.

### Evening Auxiliary Meets at Manse

The February meeting of the Knox Presbyterian Evening Auxiliary was held at the manse on Wednesday evening, February 14.

Mrs. A. J. McIsaac, the leader, presided and was assisted in the devotional period by Mrs. James Sayers and Mrs. H. Freuler. Miss Margaret Garvin gave the introductory chapter of the new study book "Our commission in Canada and overseas." Mrs. John I. Davidson rendered a vocal solo and Master Bobbie Armstrong a piano instrumental.

The business of the year was discussed with the supply report asking for a baby's layette for the fall sale. This was left in the hands of the supply committee. The meeting was brought to a close with the Mizpah benediction.

A social time was enjoyed with Miss George Muscillo was winner of a wind quiz. A musical contest, created much fun with the group of Mrs. R. Turner, Mrs. Pearl Kennedy, Mrs. A. Mann and Mrs. McIsaac winning the honors.

The committee served dainty refreshments and they with the hostess were thanked by Mrs. Elma Brigid for the delightful evening.

Canada's 1950 sugar beet harvest provided about 300 million pounds of pure beet sugar, largest crop in history.

### Hunt Without Trimmings Near Acton

Minus scarlet coats, horses and dogs, a band of district hunters gathered at Crewson's Corners last Saturday for a wolf hunt. The one day hunt, not a mid-winter display of John Peel tactics but serious business, was organized by Conservation Officer Gordon Matthews and Nassagaweya Township officials.

More serious raids on farms in the district had been reported and the group of men from Acton, Rockwood and Guelph set out without the traditional "Halloo" to track and kill the marauders. It was even bumper going than it would have been on a horse, over the slippery rock and through thickly tangled brush and wet fields in the rain and wet snow. The fifty men were split into two groups for trailing the wolves.

### Four Jets of Water Cross Fairy Lake As Town Inspects New Fire Equipment

Looking a little as if a hurricane had hit them, the trees on the Mill Street side of Fairy Lake have their bark scraped and twigs torn off strewn on the frozen mud. The trees there and the lake were involved in "Operation Firetruck" last Wednesday afternoon when councillors and members of the Acton fire brigade inspected pumper equipment which they are considering buying.

Three different types of truck pumpers are being considered and this, made by the La France Fire Engine Co. is the second they have witnessed in operation. Sunday an Acton delegation travelled to Burlington to inspect the Bickell and Seagrave pumper there.

This latest type fire pumper truck, which would be installed on any type of 3 ton chassis

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town washes, has just recently passed the fire Marshall's three-hour test at the docks in Toronto.

Two representatives of the La France Fire Engine Co. turned on the pressure for town firemen as they pointed the streams of water out over the pond. Two lines, each 150 feet, would come with the equipment which also includes axes, pike poles, ladders, etc. With two heavy town lines as well, the pressure was so strong on all four hoses that the water reached right across the pond almost to the houses on Lake Ave. One special feature of this pumper is the pressure on each line will remain constant even when it is changed on others.

So the trees were battered and the road drenched for a good cause. A truck like this may be long to the town before long.

As between the 6th and 7th convection lines of Nassagaweya Twp. Two wolves were sighted and fresh tracks of a pack of six or seven but the hunters did not get one of the invaders.

Veteran hunter Dave Mennan of R. R. 1 declared "Wolves are cute animals alright" after the large-scale hunt ended in apparent failure. By "cute" he meant sly and they certainly were. Mr. Mennan claims that he knows of 75 dens in this district alone. Reports of wolves running in packs and destroying stock on several farms had been becoming more alarming so the hunt was organized.

Like the pioneers in the district, however, we live quite contentedly while there are packs of wolves in the woods not far away.