

SUGGEST LEVY FOR HIGH SCHOOLS

Assessors Submit Figures For High School Levy

The assessors of Acton, Milton, Georgetown, Nassagaweya and Esquesing met last Friday in an effort to arrive at a settlement on the amount of the levies to be paid by the five municipalities to the North Halton High School District. Such a temporary adjustment was made last year pending completion of the County assessment which it was hoped would equalize the County on a more equitable basis.

The five municipalities in the High School District have completed their county assessments this year and the assessors had before them these figures as well as those compromised in last year's arrangement. They have suggested the following schedule for this year which will be submitted to the council of the five municipalities and if approved will form the basis of the 1951 levy:

Acton will pay \$5,959.13, an additional \$408.02 over last year of 14.57 per cent. of last year's decision of the Board of Arbitration.

Milton's levy will be \$5,959.13 or 20c over last year and 14.57 per cent. of last year's decision.

Georgetown's levy will be \$20,161.60 which is \$1,072.57 difference and 22.40 per cent. of last year's decision.

Nassagaweya's levy was suggested at \$5,600.56, being \$413.28 less and a 13.84 percentage of the total. Esquesing's amount was \$14,150.58, an amount of \$1,689.22 less and 34.02 per cent. of the total levy.

If these figures are not accepted by the municipalities, the matter may be taken to a Board of Arbitration or before the Municipal Board for final settlement. The suggestion is for the above figures to apply for one year.



AMONG THE OLDEST readers of the Acton Free Press is Mrs. B. Walker, who was 82 last month. Pictured in her Kendal, Westmoreland home in England, Mrs. Walker has enjoyed reading the paper each week for over thirty years. She is the mother of Mrs. F. L. Wright and Mrs. W. J. Findlay of Acton and is interested in Acton news although she has never been here.

New W.I. Formed Named Silverwood

Mrs. Milton Brown of Hornby, District President, and Mrs. Service of Campbellville, District Secretary officiated at the formation of the twelfth senior branch of the Women's Institute in Halton County in the district lying immediately north of Georgetown. The name chosen from several suggested was Silverwood as the territory involved extends from Silvercreek to Wildwood. As there is no district hall the meetings will be held in the homes on the second Thursday of each month. Twenty members are already enrolled.

Election of officers resulted as follows: president, Mrs. E. J. Miller; first vice-pres., Mrs. Horace Bell; second vice-pres., Mrs. R. R. Corbett; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. H. Batkin; assistant secretary-treasurer, Miss Isabel Moore; district director, Miss Rowena Stull; alternate, Mrs. Geo. Henderson Jr.; Branch Directors, Mrs. Thomas Appleyard, Mrs. Harold Campbell, Mrs. George Burt, pianist, Mrs. R. R. Corbett; auditors, Mrs. Fred Ruddle, Mrs. K. C. Lindsay.

Conveners Agriculture and Canadian Industries, Mrs. Geo. Henderson Sr.; Citizenship and Education, Miss Isabel Moore; Community Activities and Public Welfare, Mrs. William Norton; Historical Research & Current Events, Mrs. Anne Stull; Health and Home Economics, Mrs. George Henderson Jr.; Press Reporters, Misses R. and W. Stull.

The April meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Anne Stull.

NEIGHBORING FARMS CHANGE HANDS RECENTLY MANY ATTEND AUCTION SALE

Several neighboring farms have changed hands in this district recently. Mr. James Mann, No. 7 highway, has sold his 100 acre farm east of Acton to Mr. James D. Enslie of Norval, who takes possession at once. Mr. Mann held a very successful auction sale last Thursday with a large attendance.

Last week Mr. T. A. Storey, Bowfr Ave., sold his farm in Nassagaweya to Mr. Urshall of Brampton, who also gets possession at once.

Mr. Melvin Storey has purchased the 200 acre farm on the Guelph Road, Nassagaweya at Brookville from Mr. J. Brooks and known as the McPhedran farm. Possession is to be given on June 1st.

Esquesing Forums Hold Rally Monday

Bannockburn Farm Forum held their final meeting of the season at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Spruce. The questionnaire was filled in and officers appointed for the coming season.

The Forums of Esquesing Township and the Federation of Agriculture held a rally in Stewarttown Hall on Monday evening. Four films were shown, "River of Canada," "Teddy Bear's Picnic," "The Beaver" and "Co-op Progress." Mr. Betzner of Waterloo was the guest speaker. His address was full of interesting information and facts pertaining to the various commodity groups. Mr. Batkin moved a vote of thanks. Following the grand march, lunch was served by the committee in charge.

Dr. Murray Deans Liberal Candidate

Dr. F. Murray Deans of Oakville was unanimously nominated as the Liberal candidate for the provincial riding of Halton at a meeting in Milton Town Hall on Friday evening. Although it seemed at first as if the well-known dentist would be the candidate to acclamation, Kenneth Y. Dick, Milton barrister, was also nominated.

Explaining that he was at present the reeve of Milton, warden of Halton County and the secretary of the Halton Liberal Association, Mr. Dick withdrew.

The returning officer, Edward Mahon, then suggested that Dr. Deans be unanimously nominated and applause from those in the Town Hall seconded his suggestion.

Dr. Deans was nominated by Angus McMillan, a Toronto lawyer who spoke of Dr. Deans' public service in Oakville. The motion was seconded by W. J. L. Haugshire, Milton, a farmer.

The new Halton candidate was defeated in the 1948 election by less than 100 votes. He was mayor of Oakville for four years during the war and is the chairman of the Oakville-Trafalgar High School Board.

The guest speaker at the Liberal Convention was John James, M.P. for Durham.

James Cunningham acted as chairman for the meeting and E. D. Mahon was elected to conduct the ballot.

Estimate Guelph Fire Loss \$300,000

The wall of fire sirens about one o'clock Wednesday night announced another disastrous fire in Guelph. Last night's blaze gutted buildings in the MacDonald Block opposite the C.N.R. station to an estimated loss of \$300,000.

Presumably starting in a feed store, the flames spread to other stores and the offices of the Guelph Mercury. The Royal Hotel was threatened and the back of the Royal Theatre damaged.

About 100 people were forced to leave their homes but all were able to return later.

Fire licked out of windows with heavy smoke preventing the firemen from approaching the flames at first. A spectator, broadcasting direct from the fire, said charred walls could be seen inside the buildings where the smoke had cleared. One fireman was overcome by the smoke.

The bad fire last night, which destroyed six business establishments and one two-storey building in a business block, will be added to the list of serious fires which have damaged much property in Guelph in recent years.

Train Wrecks Car Rockwoodite Safe

His car a total wreck after being dented into a U-shape by a train on the York Road level crossing just outside of Guelph last week, Clem Faryon of Rockwood escaped with only minor injuries.

Mr. Faryon, who said his view of the track was blocked by two trucks, followed them across the crossing before he realized the warning was going. The C.P.R. one-coach passenger train hit his 1938 model car head on, but due to the slow speed of the train and the diagonal crossing, the car was turned away rather than carried along with the train.

He was treated for bruises, a scraped right arm and leg and cut to leg and arm muscles.

Cars Sideswipe In Rain Last Sunday

During Sunday evening's rain, two cars sideswiped on the brow of the hill just east of the first line of Highway No. 7 on the wet pavement, with no one injured although both cars involved were damaged. Ontario Provincial Police man McEwen reported that a car driven by Margaret Dixon of Milton proceeding toward Guelph, sideswiped the car driven by Blake Smith of Brampton proceeding in the other direction. Mrs. Ruth Smith was a passenger in the second vehicle. Both drivers' police report, applied their brakes and the cars swerved toward the ditch.

While heavy traffic passed in the rain, the accident was investigated by police. Miss Dixon's car a grey Ford Meteor had a front fender damaged, hood and broken radiator and grill. The front wheel was right off, the second car, a '39 Plymouth. The damaged car was torn back and the front fender bashed into the hood.

ROTARY CLUB OF ACTON HOLD ANNUAL LADIES NIGHT LAST FRIDAY EVENING

The annual Ladies' Night of Acton Rotary Club was held last Friday evening at the Yellow Briar Inn just south of Brampton. A delicious turkey dinner was served and the gathering was entertained by Evelyn Johnston of Oshawa, a pianist and comedienne whose imitations and sketches delighted the crowd.

The usual sing song and social time of the Rotarians was also an item that was enjoyed during the evening. It was a delightful informal outing that all enjoyed.

Mission Band Sees Slides At Meeting

The Ruth Nelson Mission Band of the United Church held an Easter thanksgiving service on Monday evening. The president, Georgina Plester, had charge of the program.

During the worship service led by Mrs. MacArthur, the scripture was read by Linda Loyell and others taking part were Paul McGeechie, Wayne Gordon, Norma Cunningham, Gordon Hufnagel, Magorie Cutting, Marie Lambert and Betty Logan.

A dialogue relating to the Special Object was given by Edna Jennings, Ted Jennings and Georgina Plester. A missionary recitation was given by Katherine Garrett and Mary Lou Creighton. Miss B. Hiltz of Georgetown, who is superintendent of Mission Bands for Halton Presbytery, spoke to the children and presented the Star for their certificate of recognition for 1950.

The offering was taken by Terry Waterhouse and Johnny MacArthur. Lantern slides entitled "Far round the world" with the story of each slide told by Mrs. Waterhouse was an interesting part of the program.

Assessor Selected For Eramosa Twp.

Charles A. MacNab was appointed assessor and collector of dog tax for Eramosa at the regular meeting of the township council held in Rockwood Town Hall on April 2nd. The reeve presided at the meeting with all the councillors present.

Tenders were received for supplying, crushing and delivering approximately 10,000 cubic yards of half-inch maximum size gravel to any part of the township, under the supervision of the road superintendent. The contract was to be completed not later than Sept. 1, 1951.

The four tenders were as follows: Claude Smith, London, Ont., 79 per cubic yard, Cox Construction Co., Hillsburgh, 78 per cubic yard, John Murray, Moorefield, 73 per cubic yard, Henry Holman, Rockwood, 72 per cubic yard. The tender of Henry Holman was accepted by the council.

Accounts amounting to \$1,123.72 were passed for payment.

Accept Adjustment High School Costs

The Nassagaweya Township Council met in the council chamber, Brookville on April 2, 1951 with the members all present and the reeve, Mr. J. E. Ellenton presiding.

After discussing the equalization of the North Halton High School District costs, council agreed to accept the proposed adjustment as presented by the Board of Arbitration held in Stewarttown on March 29th.

The tender of the Ontario Bridge Co. was accepted for building a concrete bridge at lot 1, con 1-2 at a cost of \$2050.

The tender of H. Holman was also accepted for supplying, crushing and delivering crushed gravel on the township roads at a cost of 40c per cubic yard.

The Municipal Liability Policy was renewed with the General Accident Assurance Co. through their agent Mr. A. T. Moore.

Accounts were passed for payment amounting to \$85, also the road superintendent's vouchers for \$782.24.

Hospital accounts and other correspondence were dealt with and arrangements were made for tour of inspection of township roads.

Power For New School Discussed at Meeting

The problem of bringing electric power into the new school was discussed at the regular meeting of the Acton School Board Tuesday evening. Chairman Oakes presided with a full board of Trustees present. Architects Merton & Evans, Mr. T. Ware and Mr. K. McPhail were present to assist the Board. Costs of overhead and underground cable alike were viewed. It was unanimously decided that underground cable would be used from the transformer, thereby eliminating any possible chance of danger from that source.

The secretary reported receipt of \$40 non-resident fees for the month of March.

Preneup McKenzie submitted a requisition for K.P. supplies, which was approved.

The secretary reported that the auditors had the 1950 school records for the annual audit.

The Board approved purchase of a used duplicator for school use, subject to the 5-year guarantee.

The property committee was requested to have the necessary repairs made to the front door of the school.

The finance statement of \$1344.54 was presented and approved. The secretary was directed to assign the N.H.S.D. Board \$204.25 for March plant operation.

The secretary reported that Inspector Skuce had called with his assistant, Mr. Rath. Mr. Rath is inspector-in-charge while Inspector Skuce is enjoying a six week holiday visiting France, Italy, Germany, Switzerland and the British Isles.



LIBERAL CANDIDATE for Halton unanimously nominated at the meeting in Milton Town Hall last Friday, is Dr. F. Murray Deans, Oakville dentist. Dr. Deans was the mayor of Oakville for four years and is chairman of the Oakville-Trafalgar High School Board.

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SUMMER COTTAGES EAST OF ACTON ENTERED DOORS SMASHED OFF HINGES

Milton Provincial Police investigated break-ins of cottages two miles east of Acton last week. The break-ins were discovered on March 27th on a routine check of these summer homes owned by Toronto residents. Constable Jas. McEwen investigated.

Light wooden doors were smashed off their hinges by the occupants to gain entry. It is not certain as yet just how many were stolen.

These cottages have been broken into before, the police report.

AWARDS FOR DANCING PUBLIC SPEAKING GIVEN 13-YEAR-OLD NANCY GORDON

Miss Nancy Gordon, 13-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Gordon of Toronto, has added more medals to her collection following recent dancing competitions at the 8th Club in Toronto. There were 15 competitors entered in the 14 and under class.

Nancy took a second in the Highland Fling and a third in the Sward Dance.

She also won a cup in the Vaughan Road Public School Home and School Association's oratorical contest recently.

Her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. George Lantz of Acton are naturally proud of her achievements.

Slides of Bolivia Music on Program

The thanksgiving meeting of the Kay Ford Mission Band was held in the Bagby Church Friday evening with musical numbers and slides on Bolivia the main feature.

Helen Landsborough, the president, was in charge of the program which opened with the regular call to worship and hymn. She also welcomed the guests who were present.

Fay Garner gave an accordion solo and then Charlie Sinter read the scripture lesson. A poem "His is mine" was read by Adèle Lamarche.

Helen and Bob Landsborough gave a piano duo and a series of slides entitled "Let's Go to Bolivia" was shown.

Fay Garner, Adèle Lamarche and Helen Landsborough sang a hymn and then all joined in the closing hymn. Mrs. L. Garner led in prayer. Refreshments were served in the church basement to the group of young people and their parents present.

Power Saw Slices Up Big Maple Tree That Grew on First Acton Land Tract

This week a tree that was already sturdy when the newly named village of Acton obtained its first post office in 1844, was cut down. The 125 year old tree, which stood at the corner of Mill and Elgin Sts., finally succumbed to progress as the Cedarvale Tree Surgeons cut the tree down and then a power saw operated by town workmen sliced through the large old trunk.

The second largest tree on Mill St. for over a century, this old soft maple was predeceased by a willow which was cut down to make room for the Merchants' Bank after being planted at the corner of Mill and Willow Streets by the late William Steele in 1853.

Willow Street was named after this then-famous tree.

The tree by Barr's Grocery, which was becoming rotten in its core, measured 39 inches in diameter and six feet, one inch in circumference. The old willow measured almost 17 feet around. The number of circles in the trunk of the maple indicated it was about 125 years old.

Several old trees are being cut down in Acton this week. Already three on Peel Street and one by the tannery dam have preceded the tree that has seen so many years of Acton's history pass.

"Only God can make a tree rotten and all it is always safe to see them go."



SIDESWIPING ON THE HILL east of the first line of No. 7 highway last Sunday afternoon, the cars involved were both damaged but no one was injured. The car on the left, a '39 Plymouth, driven by Blake Smith of Brampton was proceeding towards Acton and the '50 Meteor, right, driven by Miss Margaret Dixon of Milton towards Guelph when the collision occurred. Both drivers applied their brakes and the cars skidded towards the ditches on the pavement which was wet with rain. Both vehicles were insured. Staff Photo

"Disturb Not Our Dreams" Time Signals Gradually Diminish Here

Along with those who can remember over forty years, some of you folks will recall when we were called from labor to refreshment and vice versa with the blowing of four whistles and the clanging of the town bell. Sure you remember the whistles on the sole leather and harness leather and Storey's tanneries and in the spring the one on the sawmill made the quartette; and regular as a clock, the town bell added its official signal designating the periods of the day.

When the Post Office clock was installed it was considered unnecessary to ring the town bell and this signal was deleted. Of course there is only one of the whistles that still gives the signal and for some unexplained reason the town clock doesn't strike any more. We've missed it for a long time but hoped repairs would be made and it would function again. Most other towns have the time proclaimed but our "Big Ben" has gone the way of the three whistles of other days. It's still on the Post Office roof, only it doesn't work. Like the town hall bell, it is considered just unnecessary.