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ARBITRATION PASSED ON LANE CLOSING



NEARING COMPLETION, part of Acton's complex sewerage system is shown here. This is only one of the corners in the main control station at the Disposal Plant site on the third line. The engineer has promised completion of the system "as soon as possible". Trying to trace the pipe lines and their function is an involved job. —Staff Photo

Adverse Weather Delays Completion Of System

The Acton sewerage disposal system is 90 per cent complete according to L. McCriston, a representative of R. V. Anderson, consulting engineer, in a recent interview. "I have discussed the completion of the treatment plant with all contractors. Due to adverse weather, snow and icy condition of roads, the contractors have been unable to approach the digester area with trucks and equipment to complete piping inside the tank. Instead they have concentrated on the main unit completing equipment installation and contract extension of the plumbing water system and heat exchanger.

"Realizing the plant cannot operate until the digester is functioning we will immediately put forces to work there. This necessitates plowing the road and keeping the area accessible. There is about 10 days work to be done inside the tank. Contractors will make every effort to complete the work as soon as possible."

In reviewing the work the engineer pointed out that it was almost complete. The chlorinator has been set up and the pumps and wiring completed and tested. In the main tanks the plates are being installed and in the digester which is located on the hill at the third line site, the piping on the inside is yet to be finished. Piping from the main plant to the digester is also complete.

Ex-mayor Tyler announced at the citizens' meeting following nominations last month that the Engineer, in a letter, had promised completion of the plant by January 15th, 1952. Commenting on this Mr. McCriston said, "At the time the date was set we were assured it could be met."

The lower plant has been in condition to operate for weeks, Mr. McCriston pointed out, but it cannot operate until the piping in the digester is complete.

At the plant site a steel fence has been erected around the open tanks and the main control building which changes the appearance of the site considerably. Plumbers are still working on the completion.

A trip over the system shows the complexity of the construction that will serve Acton. A maze of pipes illustrated in one of this week's pictures shows the number of connections necessary for the satisfactory operation of the plant and system.

Superintendent Jack Lambert claims it is one of the best type of systems possible. "If anything goes wrong in one part that section can be cut off and the flow re-routed," he commented.

It appears now as if the completion might be made by the end of January.

TTC Strike Hits Bus-Lacking Acton

The TTC strike hit Acton, too, although the Free Press doesn't have big headlines to say so.

Not one of the regular 14 buses a day—or more, if there are sections—has weightily rumbled down Mill and Main St. since the strike began early last Friday morning.

Since Wiles' bus depot on Mill St. was not open when the first bus passed through, only the unknown few who waited in the cold for the 6:30 a.m. bus knew just when they realized there was a strike that had halted all bus travel.

By the time the 8:50 bus east and the 10:17 bus west didn't arrive apparently travellers in Acton had heard of the action swiftly voted on the night before in Massey Hall, Toronto, for no one arrived in hopes of a ride.

Miss Laura Wiles phoned Guelph to make sure there would be no buses that morning. The last official bus through town was the 1:12 a.m. bus wending its final way west.

There are daily commuters in Acton who travel to work by bus each day. These have likely found rides or have taken to hitch-hiking as have the harder-hit Torontonians.

Dates Conflicting, Adjoin Til Jan. 30

Enforcement of the garage closing by-law was delayed when, in police court in Acton yesterday, the information against Frank Toth was dated for December 3rd and the evidence in prosecution dealt with violations on December 4th and 5th. Robert McCauley of Toronto, prosecuting counsel, requested an adjournment which was granted to January 30 at 11 o'clock. LeRoy Dale appeared on behalf of Mr. Toth.

Two other cases were heard by Magistrate Langdon in court here. Both Wm. Taylor and Louis Meron were charged with having liquor in a place other than their residence. Both were assessed fines of \$10 and costs of a like amount and 18 pints and a full case of beer were confiscated.

Report 22 Baskets Sent at Christmas

Lakeside Chapter I.O.D.E. officers were nominated at the last regular meeting of the group held on Tuesday, January 8th in the Legion Hall. Second vice-president Mrs. H. Hinton presided. Mrs. F. Terry, Mrs. S. Norton and Mrs. J. Jaque form the nominating committee.

Outstanding bills were directed paid and educational grants were authorized. Gordon Oder will edit the chapter's books.

Thanks were expressed for Christmas welfare: 22 baskets were reported sent. A vote of thanks for Christmas card work was made to Mrs. A. Leishman and for welfare work to Mrs. E. Marks.

Voting was held on new members.

After games, lunch was served.

There are about 12,000 post offices, urban and rural, in Canada.

Big Deer Killed By Car Saturday

A 170 pound doe was killed on No. 25 highway just south of the Speyside corner when it jumped in front of a car driven by O. E. Robbins, principal of Acton High School, last Saturday about 4:45 p.m.

Apparently the deer jumped out of the thickly wooded section at Speyside and into the path of the car, giving no opportunity to stop. The deer was knocked down and killed by the impact. Damage to the front of the 1950 Pontiac sedan was estimated at between \$30 and \$40.

Provincial Constable J. Bradley turned the venison over to the inmates of the county jail.

Fire Levels Home Of Thos. McAlpine

Neighbors' attempts failed to save the small house of Thomas McAlpine at Limehouse when it caught fire last Thursday at about noon. Mr. McAlpine, the only occupant of the house, escaped uninjured and managed to save only a few clothes.

The frame, asphalt-covered building was levelled and the attempts of the bucket brigade could not combat the leaping blaze which gained a good start in the interior of the building.

Cause of the fire is thought to have been from a chimney spark. No other buildings were threatened by the flames.

Mr. McAlpine is making his home with the A. W. Benton's for the present.

Set Hearing Date For Equalization

Lawyers representing Halton's municipalities have been notified of a hearing before Judge Robinson to finally dispose of county equalization. The representatives were to advise their councils of the matter so it can be finalized on that date. The hearing is set for Friday, January 18 at 11 a.m.

The municipalities have all agreed to the settlement arranged at a county council meeting but Georgetown refused to sign the agreement that the other nine municipalities signed.

CENTURY OLD RESIDENCE MOVED TO MAKE ROOM FOR GARAGE LOT

An old landmark was removed from Main Street in Acton on Monday to make room for development of the business section. The house that adjoined the Lorne Garner Motors property was jacked up and rolled away up the highway to a new site on the first line of Esquering.

Mr. Garner will now be able to expand his property for the storage of cars and trucks and the new land acquired by him will give him one of the finest and most commodious sales and service stations in town.

The old house that was moved dates back about 100 years. According to "Acton's Early Days," the house was erected between 1852 and 1857. One of the early occupants was Emmanuel Chapman, who also had a blacksmith shop on the property. James Waldie succeeded him.

The blacksmith shop was on the corner of the lot next to the stone dwelling still on Main St. In the rear of the shop there was a wagon shop where William Grant built and repaired wagons and "Jim" Waldie ironed them off Mr. Waldie moved to Milton and conducted a blacksmith shop there.

When Mr. Waldie left for Milton, Mr. Grant occupied the house and took over the blacksmith shop. Later Mr. Grant built a shop at the corner of Mill and Frederick Street where Mr. William Mainprize now resides.

There has been no part of the blacksmith shop on the property for years but the location of the house on the lot can easily be understood when it is realized that the lot had other buildings at one time.

Other residents of the century

Expect 455 Attend P.S. in September

Dr. Oakes was duly elected chairman of the Acton Public School Board for the third term of office by his fellow trustees at the inaugural meeting Tuesday. On being invited to take the chair, he voiced his appreciation and commended the board members on the excellent work that had been accomplished, thanking them for their splendid co-operation.

Principal McKenzie reported that the student body had not returned to normal on account of mumps and chicken pox, which made it difficult for the teachers. He advised that Miss Anderson was absent—mumps.

He informed the board that a student body of 455 was anticipated for September opening which would require three additional teachers, one male teacher, one primary teacher and one for part time kindergarten, primary and part time supply.

Chairman Oakes appointed the following committees: finance, Trustees Creighton and Jones; property, Trustees Watson, Heard and Jones; supply, Trustee Wolfe and chairman.

The property committee reported that the obsolete heating system in the High School was causing difficulty and would require immediate overhaul as leaking valves were allowing steam loss. The N.H.S.D. Board was to be advised that immediate repairs would have to be made.

Mr. George Mann was re-engaged as caretaker at the same salary. Provision was made for additional help when required.

Secretary Middleton reported receipt of \$60 non-resident fees.

A finance statement was presented of \$1,223.57 and payment authorized. The secretary was directed to assess the N.H.S.D. Board \$348.39 plant operation expense.

By motion the regular meetings of the Board will be held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the school.

January 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the school was the date, time and place of the emergency meeting to strike the 1952 estimate.

On the average Canadians spent \$5.00 per person on going to the movies in 1947 and \$7.00 in 1948.

Lane Closing Referred to Judge For Arbitration

Acton's 1952 council took the oath of office at their inaugural meeting on Monday evening of this week and referred the by-law to close the lane back of Bower Ave. syndicate houses, to the county judge for arbitration. Solicitor for the Bower Ave. ratepayers, A. Dale said it was up to council to decide on respective merits of each case. "You have nine people whose lots are on this lane and those people have got benefit from it. You now propose to close the lane to the benefit of one individual to the detriment of nine."

Mr. Dale was referring to the proposal of J. W. Wolfe to purchase the Bower Ave. entrance to the lane which passes his house. This would enable him to make alterations. Mr. Wolfe proposed to provide a turning area at the end of the lane with entrance only from Alice St.

Mr. Wolfe declared that, "Insofar as the lane is very infrequently used summer or winter, I cannot see where the rights, privileges or conveniences of any citizen are being interfered with in this proposal."

According to the law, if the lane is put up for sale, each neighboring property owner is entitled to purchase half of the lane. Councillor Taylor asked if half the lane would be of any use to Mr. Wolfe and he said he was prepared to adjust his plans to that size.

Solicitor Leatherland pointed out that the arbitrator would only decide the sufficiency of the lane provided.

Taylor: "Would the town pay legal costs if the judge gave a negative answer?"

Leatherland: "Yes."

Taylor: "What would the approximate cost be?"

Leatherland: "About \$50."

Taylor: "Could the parties not satisfied take higher action and to who?"

Leatherland: "I don't know whether they can appeal the arbitrator's decision but you can usually take anything to the supreme court. If the arbitrator decides negatively that will be the end of it."

Wick: "If a by-law was passed here tonight to close the alley could the ratepayers object?"

Leatherland: "Yes, and they would have grounds because if objections are raised, the sufficiency must be determined by arbitrators."

Taylor: "If the judge decides the remaining alley is insufficient, does council pay costs?"

Leatherland: "Yes."

Irwin: "Even if the judge does approve the sufficiency, we still don't have to sell it."

Clerk McGeachie gave a summary of road expenditures for 1951. The total on which the Ontario government pays a subsidy of 50 per cent was \$37,282.48. This included maintenance of roads, culverts and repairs. The repair revealed that in 1951, \$217.50 was paid for trucks to remove snow.

J. Greer was appointed to the Planning Board to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of J. Creighton. Deputy-reeve J. Stewart was appointed as council's representative.

A by-law was approved allowing the necessary borrowing of money from the Bank of Montreal until the taxes are received.

Acting Mayor Hargrave and the treasurer were authorized to pay the Acton Public School requisition.

ion as filed with the treasurer. E. (Babe) Allan has been added to the town staff and he was to be issued \$50 in petty cash for the operation of the arena.

Council formed a striking committee and established the following committees:

Finance—R. J. Hargrave, E. Taylor, C. Rognavaldson.

Streets, lights and garbage—J. J. Stewart, R. Thompson, L. Wick, A. Fryer.

Fire, public buildings, park, arena—E. Taylor, A. Irwin, L. Wick.

Police, sewers and industrial—Mayor, R. J. Hargrave, C. Rognavaldson, R. Thompson.

A by-law was passed authorizing an agreement for the maintenance on county connecting links in the town. The town maintains curbs, culverts and bridges, for which they are paid 50 per cent, by the county and the county pays 100 per cent of the maintenance of the road.

Oswald Schwandt appeared before council regarding the payment of a transient trader's license. He asked a little time before paying the \$100 fee because he had only been in the country four months. Solicitor Leatherland pointed out that as long as Mr. Schwandt was selling only his services, he was only liable for the business tax and not the transient trader's license.

Council established the first and third Tuesday of each month as the regular meeting night. A second resolution was passed that all council meetings in 1952 adjourn at midnight. Monday's meeting adjourned at 11 minutes after 12.

Acton Y's Men's Club was given a rebate of \$11 for the rent of the

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W.M.S. Installs Officers For 1952

The Woman's Missionary Society of the United Church met in the Sunday School Room on Tuesday, with the president, Miss M. Z. Bennett presiding. Worship service was conducted by Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. J. Lambert.

The study book "From Lake to Northern Lakes", was given by Mrs. C. L. Poole and Miss Bennett.

Paying of fees and annual reports were presented, which were all very gratifying.

The installation of officers was conducted by Rev. E. A. Curry, who gave a talk to the members on the work of the Society and the responsibility of each officer in carrying on the work for the Master, and the work which each can do to spread the gospel in lands that are not so fortunate as we are in this country.

The meeting closed and a lunch of cookies and cup of tea was enjoyed.



OVERALL VIEW of the Disposal Plant includes all but the digester which is a circular tank on a nearby hill. Work is nearly completed and the engineer predicts about 10 days work on piping in the digester tank before the entire \$425,000 system goes into action. The fence around the control building and tanks was just recently erected. Bad road conditions prevented any access to the digester tank with the necessary equipment for completion by the predicted January 15. —Staff Photo