

The Acton Free Press.

Seventy-Seventh Year.—No. 29.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, JANUARY 24th, 1952.

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1,088 VOTE IN MONDAY'S CLOSE RACE

NASSAGAWEYA TWP. COUNCIL HAVE INAUGURAL, MAKE APPOINTMENTS

The inaugural meeting of Nassagaweya Township Council was held on Monday, January 14th.

After the members made the usual declaration of office, they took their seats as the Municipal Council for 1952: namely Reeve J. S. Norrish, councillors A. R. Service, Chas. Thomson, John Milne, John Robertson.

A. R. Service was appointed a representative on the Milton Rural Fire Area for the Township.

Appointments were made as follows: Tax Collector, Chas. Darby; Treasurer, L. W. McMillan; School Attendance Officer, Horace Blythe; Grand Valley Conservation Authority, Chas. Thomson; Caretaker of Hall, Mrs. Blanche Elliott; Caretaker of Memorial Plot, Cyril Elliott.

Membership fees were ordered

Mayor Rachlin Inducted; 27 Petition On Turkeys

In the year's second council meeting Mayor B. D. Rachlin was inducted and gave a short inaugural address thanking citizens for the honor accorded him. A petition was presented signed by approximately 27 ratepayers against the turkey farm operated by J. W. Wolfe. Representatives were present at the meeting from R. V. Anderson, engineer, and Spartan Contracting Co. regarding the hold-back payment now due by the town on the sewerage installations. Requests for loaves and grants were registered by the Fire Brigade, Acton Public Library and the Acton School Board. All members of council were present to consider the matters in the now limited four and a half hour session. (A resolution was approved at the inaugural meeting ruling that all meetings adjourn at midnight.)

A petition signed by 27 ratepayers in the Bower Ave. vicinity asked council to take the necessary action to abate the nuisance of the turkey farm operated by J. W. Wolfe, Bower Ave. Mayor Rachlin suggested the council defer consideration for the time being so members of council could consider the situation. R. H. Elliott, speaking on the petition, pointed out that it had been going on for a number of years.

Councillor Taylor suggested it was regrettable the farm had not been investigated sooner before the business had been allowed to expand. It was recalled that health authorities had investigated the premises a number of years ago and found them quite satisfactory.

Mr. Elliott pointed out that in the summer Bower Ave. and district residents cannot get the proper use from their property because of the odor.

A. Mercer suggested that the odor was "sickening" and devalues the property in that area. He asked that council consider more than one person. Council promised consideration of the matter.

J. K. Falby of Spartan Contracting Co. asked payment of their hold-back amounting to \$6,221.97 which, he pointed out, was due and payable on November 30, 1951. A final hold-back payment of approximately \$5,900 is due in February. Council, by resolution, asked that the clerk contact R. V. Anderson and arrange an immediate meeting. In the meantime all payments to the Spartan Contracting Co. were deferred pending clarification of liability. Two councillors opposed this motion.

Clerk McGeachie presented a summary of claims held by ratepayers against the town which the corporation felt were the responsibility of the contractor. Accounts totalled slightly more than \$2,000.

A letter was read from the contractor accepting "some" accounts and refusing others on the basis of the engineer's and town inspector's approval. Mr. Falby suggested the town release the hold-back due and arrange a meeting with officials to arbitrate on the claims before the final hold-back would be sufficient to cover present and any future claims. An immediate meeting was to be arranged to consider the claims for damage and short laterals.

The Acton Public School submitted their requisition for operational expenses this year. The requisition totalled \$26,002. This was approximately a \$5,000 increase over last year's requisition.

G. W. McKenzie asked council to consider a grant to the Acton

paid to the Ontario Good Roads Association, Ontario Association of Rural Municipalities and the Association of Assessing Officers of Ontario. Accounts were paid amounting to \$260.00 and the Road vouchers for \$200.00.

The tax collector was instructed to subscribe for eight copies of the Municipal World. The reeve and clerk were authorized to submit to the Minister of Highways, the petition showing that during the period December 31, 1950 to December 31, 1951, there had been spent \$28,050.44 on roads and request the statutory grant.

A by-law was passed authorizing the borrowing of money from the Bank of Nova Scotia, Campbellville. The tender of L. Copeland for supplying 6 cords of wood to the hall was accepted.



MAYOR B. D. RACHLIN was appointed in a by-election on Monday to the town's chief post. A record vote of over 70 per cent. cast ballots in the four-way contest. Mayor Rachlin was the only candidate with no previous municipal experience. Staff Photo

Library Board equal to or slightly increased from last year. The grant last year of \$2,200 had made the Board eligible for a grant of \$280 from the Provincial government. Mr. McKenzie pointed to several improvements the grant had allowed which included doubling the purchase of books and doubling the rent to the Y.M.C.A. which was indirectly to the town. An assistant had been hired, salaries adjusted and the room improved. A schedule of grants was to be prepared.

Councillor Taylor, chairman of the fire committee, reported that at a meeting of the Brigade the members had suggested increasing the number from the present 16 men to 21. Since that meeting, however, she had found the brigade was not entirely in favor of this move.

Miss Taylor reported that it would require five new outfits at approximately \$50 per man. She pointed out that if the brigade was increased, an increase in the \$550 grant would be expected.

Miss Taylor also submitted a requisition for approximately \$1,500 worth of equipment including 400 feet of hose, fog nozzle, fog extinguisher, nozzle holder, salvage tarpaulin and Scot air pak, smoke mask. The fire committee

(Continued on Page Five)

Mrs. O'Brien Has Her 96th Birthday

Rockwood's grand old lady, Mrs. Matilda O'Brien celebrated her 96th birthday with open house for her friends and neighbours this week.

Scores of cards, gifts and flowers arrived to make the day one of the happiest in her 96 years.

Remarkably active and keen of mind Mrs. O'Brien, the former Matilda Soper, clearly recalls how, as a girl, she gathered chips as her father, Samuel Soper, helped clear the land which was to become the village of Rockwood.

A widow now for a number of years, Mrs. O'Brien lives alone in a comfortable little cottage and it was there that she greeted her friends. Receiving with her were her niece and nephew, Ivy and Thomas Collinson, who live next door and a neighbor, Mrs. A. Hills.

Served Since 1935 Cleaver To Retire

Burlington, Ont., January 21st, 1952

I have served Halton County as its Federal Member continuously since 1935, and as I have decided that I could not accept another nomination, I advised the Executive of the Liberal Association of the County accordingly at its last business meeting on January 17th last. I do not anticipate that the election will be held during the current year, but I felt obliged to advise the Executive of the party so that a new candidate might be nominated and in the field plenty of time for him to get well acquainted with the electors before the elections. While there is no secret about the matter, I gave this information to the Executive in confidence, as I believed that the appropriate time for me to make a public announcement would be at the party convention when it is held next fall. Since the news of my retirement has leaked out and has been published in some newspapers, I am now writing to all of the County press.

At this time I would like to sincerely thank the electors of the riding for the confidence extended to me over so long a period. On my part, I have diligently tried to serve the riding to the best of my ability, and during the entire term of my office have served everyone alike without regard to his political affiliations.

HUGHES CLEAVER

J. BELL, GEORGETOWN, CHAIRMAN NORTH HALTON BOARD FOR 1952

John Bell of Georgetown was elected chairman of the North Halton High School Board on Monday night at the inaugural meeting in Milton. Vice-chairman is N. Pickett of Milton. The members took their oath of office before F. W. B. Fitzgerald, J.P.

A Striking Committee composed of Messrs. Coon, Pickett, Blehn, Carbert and Beaumont, brought in a recommendation of committee appointments which was adopted by the Board.

Finance — Dr. Milne, Dr. Martin and Beaumont.

Management — Messrs. A. Pickett, W. Burn, G. A. Dills.

Property — Messrs. Geo. Brown, W. Coon, N. Pickett.

Transportation — Messrs. George Cleave, C. Woods, Geo. Brown.

New Building — Dr. Martin, Geo. Cleave, G. A. Dills, Dr. Milne and R. Carbert.

The Board held a lengthy discussion on the building of new schools. A motion was passed that an architect be consulted regarding the renovation of the Georgetown High School. The purpose of the motion was to determine if the Department of Education would approve of rebuilding and to secure a comparison of costs between renovation and new building. The matter was placed in the hands of the new building committee and the Board by motion selected J. D. Kyles, architect of Hamilton, to contact for this information.

It was also urged by the chairman that members contact their municipal councils to ascertain

School Crowding Concern Of Board

Duncan Moffat was elected chairman of the Nassagaweya Township School Area Board at the January meeting on January 16 at the home of the secretary, Mrs. Beatrice Fletcher. Claude Brinklow was elected vice-chairman, and Mrs. Fletcher engaged as secretary-treasurer.

Present were the 1951 members, C. Brinklow, and Duncan Moffat; the 1952 members Del Moffat, Stanley Robinson and Elmer Cox and also L. L. Skuce, the school inspector.

Members and Mr. Skuce discussed the over-crowding of schools in the area, considering the next 10 years' estimated conditions. Nos. three, five and 10 schools were especially mentioned.

The Bunlin Gillies Co. Ltd. of Hamilton was requested to visit the schools of the area and estimate the necessary supplies for the coming year. This was to be submitted at the next meeting.

The Imperial Oil Co. Ltd. was asked for contracts for oil for Nos. five, four and seven schools.

Bills amounting to \$650.50 were passed for payment.

Friendly Circle Holds Inaugural

The Friendly Circle held its first meeting of the New Year at the home of Mrs. James Adams on January 6, with Vice-Pres. Miss Clara Grindley presiding. The minutes were read by the secretary Mrs. Jack Stewart, Jr.

Plans have been made for a fashion show to be held the latter part of February. A letter was received from Miss Ruth Nelson, United Church missionary from Acton in Saskatchewan, thanking the circle for the Christmas gift she received. It was suggested that each member send a card to Mrs. Harold Bellamy who is confined to hospital.

Treasurer for last year, Miss Jean Harris, gave the report for the 1951 work. The devotional part was taken by last year's executive under the direction of Mrs. Clare Pickett. Scripture was read by Miss Jean Harris. Mrs. Pickett gave a number of readings.

The program, which is to run for the year, and is conducted by the groups is called Pollyanna. The girls also conducted a variety program of games and contests for the evening. A delicious lunch was enjoyed by all and Miss Grindley thanked the hostess for the use of her home.

Memorials of his zeal and work for his church and his people at the fine Parish Hall in Rockwood and the beautiful Parish Hall in Acton which is nearing completion. In their building, he was the leader of the flock, working with them, giving encouragement. On Tuesday night the vestry meeting of St. Alban's was scheduled and here was to be revealed the story of the voluntary work of the congregation in their erection. In their walls is built not only usefulness and beauty, but also the labor of love of a pastor and his people. It is a regret that he did not see the fulfillment of the task he had undertaken.

In 1935 Mr. Luxton married Miss Elsie R. Holbrook in Fergus and surviving with her to mourn the loss of a loving husband and father are Helen, Donald and Marion. The community shares with them the loss they have sustained. Also remaining are his mother, Mrs. Margaret Luxton, Mount Forest, and one brother, the Rt. Rev. George N. Luxton, Bishop of Huron, London, Ont. and three sisters, Mrs. Langford Robinson of Hamilton, Mrs. Alex Bain of Guelph and Miss Margaret Luxton of Mount Forest.

The funeral was held to-day with service in St. Alban's Anglican Church at eleven o'clock with Archdeacon Thompson in charge. This was followed with service in St. Paul's Anglican Church, Mount Forest, at three o'clock. Pallbearers were Mr. Alex Bain of Guelph and Mr. Martin Luxton of London and church wardens of St. Alban's, Acton, Messrs. H. Jolley and Thos. Jones and of St. John's, Rockwood, Dr. K. B. Waller and Mr. Lorhe Lenfant. Temporary interment was in Mount Forest.

Nearly 1,750,000 people visited Canada's national parks in 1949.



REV. W. G. LUXTON, B.A., died suddenly at his home Monday evening, Rector of St. Alban's Church, Acton, and St. John's, Rockwood, Mr. Luxton had been very active in his church work. During his ministry a Parish Hall was added in both Rockwood and Acton, funeral services were held today.

—Photo by E. Taylor

OBITUARY

Acton Minister Dies Suddenly

This community was indeed shocked to learn of the sudden passing of Rev. W. G. Luxton, rector of St. Alban's Church, at the rectory here early Tuesday morning. Mr. Luxton had been active as usual and had attended a meeting in Rockwood on Monday evening. He passed in his sleep early Tuesday morning.

William Gruer Luxton was a son of Mrs. Margaret Luxton and the late Arthur G. H. Luxton and was born at Mount Forest on November 17, 1899. He attended Mount Forest Public and High Schools and received his B.A. degree from the University of Toronto and graduated in Theology from Trinity College, Toronto. He was ordained in 1923.

Rev. Mr. Luxton served his church in parishes at Holland, Manitoba, Fergus and Aldershot and came to St. Alban's in Acton and St. John's in Rockwood just four years ago. During his incumbency here he endeavored himself not only in the hearts of his congregation, but with every citizen of the communities where he has served so quietly, so faithfully and so efficiently.

Memorials of his zeal and work for his church and his people at the fine Parish Hall in Rockwood and the beautiful Parish Hall in Acton which is nearing completion. In their building, he was the leader of the flock, working with them, giving encouragement. On Tuesday night the vestry meeting of St. Alban's was scheduled and here was to be revealed the story of the voluntary work of the congregation in their erection. In their walls is built not only usefulness and beauty, but also the labor of love of a pastor and his people. It is a regret that he did not see the fulfillment of the task he had undertaken.

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B. D. Rachlin is Mayor In Close Election Mon.

With a record vote on Monday to decide who will be Mayor of Acton for 1952, B. D. Rachlin, Acton merchant, won a close race and was elected to the chief post in Acton. The contest narrowed down between Ted Tyler, who was mayor last year and a former reeve and councillor, and when the votes were tabulated Mr. Rachlin's plurality was seven over Mr. Tyler's vote.

Impromptu Talks On Y.P.S. Program

Knox Y.P.S. held their opening meeting of the New Year on Tuesday, January 15 in the school room. The meeting was opened by the president, assisted in the devotional by Jack Davidson and June Watkins. Ruth Smith and Betty Sinclair favoured with a vocal duet, "In the Garden" and Rev. R. H. Armstrong gave the topic, "What This Minister expects of this Y.P.S."

Lorraine Roszel, Clarence Coles and Jack Davidson were three vicarings selected for impromptu speaking; their oration was lessened somewhat by the help of a picture on which to expound. Roll Call was answered by "A New Year's Resolution". Because Elma Bruce, the secretary, is removing to Port Dalhousie, Clarence Coles was appointed her successor.

There were 20 present and 12 signified their intention to accept the invitation for a sleigh ride in Galt. Several members volunteered to assist in the renovation of the church wash rooms.

The meeting closed with Rev. Armstrong pronouncing benediction.

TRAINING COURSE IN WINTER SCOUTING IS HELD AT BLUE SPRINGS

Representatives from scout districts throughout Ontario gathered at Blue Springs Scout Reserve, near Acton, last Friday evening to begin a week-end winter training course. Representing this scout district were David Dills, First Acton Troop scoutmaster and Doug Davidson, assistant scoutmaster.

With pounds of equipment on toboggans, the scout leaders, district commissioners and full-time scouters set up camp, cooked and slept outside.

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Judge Robinson Amends 1951 Equalization By-law

County equalization of assessment was finally settled Friday of last week by County Judge W. N. Robinson. His Honor amended the equalization by-law after a three hour hearing in Milton. The hearing was to approve and settle the share each municipality in the county should contribute to the county expenditures.

All municipalities had agreed, before the hearing, on the percentages and the assessment to be used as a basis. Georgetown refused to sign the necessary paper because it contained reference to the levy of the North Halton High School District Board.

Solicitor Willis, representing Georgetown, asked to have included in the agreement something to the effect that this settlement would not affect any future proceedings. Other representatives included in the North Halton High School Area would not agree to this.

A Municipal Board hearing in December established the basis for the levy of operation costs in the high school levy, which stands for a five year term unless any one municipality can show a 10 per cent increase in assessment in two consecutive years.

Solicitor G. Elliott for Milton and Nassagaweya objected strongly to the inclusion of the words "without prejudice to any other proceedings" because the other municipalities planned to upset the Board's ruling in two years. If the present settlement before the Judge could not be used it would add another year to what Solicitor Willis termed a very "favourable" (to Georgetown) agreement.

Mr. Willis said, "Georgetown gained very materially by the Board settlement." Judge Robinson asked, "Aren't you satisfied with it then?" Mr. Willis replied, "We don't want these figures to be used next year."

Mr. Elliott summed up saying, "They're using the settlement

Mr. C. Hansen, a Councillor for some years and who served 14 years on the Public Utilities Commission, ran third and Mr. Thos. Nicol, also a former Councillor, ran fourth. Mr. Rachlin, while always keenly interested in Acton's affairs, has never held public office here previously.

The second election in Acton became necessary this year when Thomas Salmon, who was elected in the December elections was forced by ill health to resign before assuming office. The first meeting of the 1952 Council was held with Reeve Hargrave presiding and on Tuesday, Mayor Rachlin assumed the gavel and took his seat in presiding over the council.

There was keen interest in the election throughout. At the nomination meeting, ten candidates were proposed for the position. Four of them decided to contest the seat. Out of a total vote possible of 1475, there were 1070 ballots counted and 9 spoiled ballots. There were 72 per cent of the voters out on Monday which sets a new high in interest in municipal affairs in Acton.

The new mayor of Acton has been a resident of Acton for over twenty years. He came here from Toronto and conducts a very successful ladies' and men's clothing store and also a jewelry business. Mayor Rachlin is a member of Acton's Y's Men's Club and has taken a keen and active interest in local sports and all town affairs. He succeeds Mayor Tyler who was also a keen citizen of Acton and gave untiringly of his time in the interests and service of Acton.

The following is the result of the vote by wards:

	Rachlin	Tyler	Hansen	Nicol
No. 1	121	141	97	11
No. 2	68	96	51	26
No. 3	80	96	55	8
No. 4	107	76	56	4
	366	378	250	46

figures to gain something but they won't let us use them to gain something."

At one point Mr. Willis concluded, "If they put in what I want, I think it's fair."

In giving his decision Judge Robinson pointed out that all the municipalities had agreed on the percentage and the main dispute seemed to be between Georgetown and the other municipalities in the North Halton High School Area. "The Municipal Board has made a ruling and we have nothing to do with that," the Judge commented.

His Honor equalized the county by-law as follows and each municipality was to absorb solicitor's fees incurred in the proceedings this far:

1951 Assessment for 1952 Levy		
County	Equalized	Total
Oakville	9,819,391	17,702
Burlington	8,396,791	15,141
Milton	2,400,764	4,328
Georgetown	3,899,577	7,050
Acton	2,520,580	4,544
Bronte	990,586	1,793
Trafalgar	11,136,816	20,077
Nelson	9,107,143	16,418
Nassagaweya	5,129,359	9,247
Essex	2,063,503	3,720
Total	55,470,519	100%