

The Acton Free Press.

Seventy-Seventh Year.—No. 31.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7th, 1952

Eight Home Print Pages—Six Cents

COUNCIL TO PAY PART OF SEWER BILL

Every Community Across Canada Mourns Passing Of A Great King

Flags on public buildings in this community are at half mast. King George VI is dead and Canada and every city and hamlet and every part of the great commonwealth mourns the passing of a great ruler and a great man. There is a mourning and sadness which has hushed our everyday life.

Scattered though the late king's subjects are, the 500,000,000 today have a common bond in the loss of a ruler who was an inspiration in whatever tasks he undertook. Unprepared for the life of a king he met the challenge when Edward abdicated, and overcoming great difficulties he succeeded in being one of the Commonwealth's most popular rulers. Burdened with the rigorous and demanding tasks of his position he never failed to be popular as a ruler and family man.

This town, along with hundreds of others, awoke to the shocking news of the peaceful passing of a truly fine man. Prime Minister St. Laurent commented, "He was both a great king and a good man."

Acton joins with the Commonwealth in acknowledging the death of a truly great monarch. In a conversation with Mayor Rachlin he expressed Acton's heartfelt sympathy to the members of the Royal Family in their sudden bereavement and Acton mourns with them and all other subjects the passing of a beloved king and a great man. Acton will join with all the nation in a day of mourning when the funeral day is arranged and a suitable service in which all citizens will participate will be announced at the proper time. Special services in all the churches will likely be held on Sunday.

Sixteen years ago, on the death of King George V, a public service was held and members of various organizations paraded to Knox Church for the service. The day of the funeral was proclaimed a day of mourning. Details of local arrangements will be announced in due course.

Faced with the task of reigning the British Empire is the former Princess Elizabeth, now Queen Elizabeth II. The 25 year-old girl is still familiar in Canadian hearts, for she won the admiration of all who saw her when she made her hurried Canadian tour recently. With her, facing a great responsibility, is Phillip, the Duke of Edinburgh.

Much has already been written and spoken about the greatness of the late King George VI. But a mere chronology of facts does not do justice to the personality and character that made him the type of king he was. The Empire was probably never fully aware of the seriousness of the operation he underwent. It took its toll as did his many other duties and activities during his 16 year reign.

Long live the Queen!

ACTON MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION'S MESSAGE ON THE DEATH OF THE KING

At the request of the Free Press, the Acton Ministerial Association has given this message to the people of Acton and vicinity at the time of the death of our beloved King George VI.

On Wednesday morning of this week, a cold chill gripped the world and mankind was sick at heart. Hushed into shocked, unbelieving silence and sobering reflections we heard the news: "The King is dead!"

Never was a king more universally respected, or the passing of a good man more universally mourned. King George the Sixth was good in the fullest sense of the term, a tower of strength to his people, a public servant faithful beyond the average, a kind and loving husband and father, a man of deep and abiding faith under the most trying of circumstances, a gentleman and a scholar, a man's man and a kingly man: "a king in all things," a man whose loss to the world at this most critical and trying time is most sincerely to be regretted.

But because every monarch is subject to a higher one, and a mightier our beloved King has answered the summons to higher service. We, and all people everywhere, are saddened by his going, the whole world is the richer and the better, the stronger and the wiser for his having been here, but the whole world rejoices in the knowledge of eternal justice, reward for service faithfully rendered and for devotion to duty above the average will now be his with honour increased and blessings bestowed King George will be missed.

Yet our King did not leave us alone, nor did he leave us without a further witness to his faith and spirit; in his stead we will have his daughter, already dear to the heart of people everywhere and precious in the sight of her subjects, already well-trusted and well-schooled in the fires of affliction and sorrow, so much like her father in spirit and faith. May the God of her father be for her, too, wisdom and strength, comfort and joy, and his memory and example her inspiration.

This sorrow, which has come upon the British Commonwealth of

Nations and upon the people of England in particular, is a most sore affliction. The heart of all the world is touched and quickened with sympathy for the residents of Britain, for the royal household, for the saddened members of the King's own immediate family, and for the young girl and mother upon whom has been placed so suddenly the heavy responsibilities of Queenship. Yet we know that this very sorrow, this burden of grief which has been placed upon the heart of a wonderful people, will serve but to bind them the more closely together and strengthen them to fulfill their destiny under God in the service of man. "The people are fashioned according to the example of their king, and edicts are of less power than the model which his life exhibits." So spoke Claudianus. What finer example than has ever been given to any people than that which has been given by King George VI whose passing the whole human family so deeply mourns? It is this very example, this model life of courage and fidelity, whose integrity and unselfish devotion to his people and his duty, displayed by their late King, which will most assuagely comfort, strengthen and sustain the British people. As the king was, so will his people be, kingly in all things and faithful forever.

In playing over the King's message to his people, broadcast at Christmas time in 1949, we notice that the king referred to his severe illness of that year, in "these words" even thus like every other cloud can have a silver lining. That surely is the King's message to his people, and to humanity, all over the world, today. May the Royal Family, the subjects of his realm, all people, take heart, may they know that King George has accomplished something for humanity which will never pass away, that the world is a better place for his having been here, and that, even under this cloud of sorrow and affliction, can have a silver lining.

God be praised and thanked for King George the Sixth! God, save the Queen!

The Acton Ministerial Association



Dismiss Charges On Closing By-Law

Charges against Frank J. Toth Jr. for selling gasoline after hours were dismissed by Magistrate Kenneth Langdon when the accused pleaded not guilty in court Friday of last week.

A. Dale, Georgetown, appeared for Mr. Toth and R. Macaulay appeared for the town. Charges were brought under town by-law 951 forbidding the sale of gasoline by retail gasoline outlets in town between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. on Monday to Friday and between 10 p.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. Monday. Permits were to be issued in rotation so one garage would be exempt each week from the provisions of the by-law.

The by-law was passed after a petition by the garage operators had been presented. Signatures of more than 75 per cent of the operators were necessary to make the petition effective. Evidence brought out during the hour and a half hearing showed that the clerk had failed to certify on the bottom of the petition that the required number had signed.

Magistrate Langdon ruled "the court finds this fatal to by-law 951 and this charge is dismissed."

Constable Wylie laid the charge for an offense on January 13 at 7:50 p.m. and 11:51 p.m. The constable, Clerk McGeachie and Town Solicitor Leatherland gave evidence. In testifying Clerk McGeachie said he had told council verbally that 75 per cent of the operators had signed the petition, although he did not certify it in writing.

School Addition Toured At Meeting

Chairman Oakes presided at a full board of trustees at the regular meeting of the board held in Acton Public School on Tuesday. The chairman welcomed a delegation of Home and School members and conducted them on an inspection of the new school addition. Matters of mutual interest were discussed.

Principal McKenzie reported that the toilets were causing considerable distress by the odour. Property committee ordered this condition was to be corrected at once as much as possible.

The secretary reported receipt of \$60.00 non-resident fees. Finance statement of \$704.14 was approved for payment and the secretary was directed to assess the N.H.S.D. Board \$200.00 January plant operation expense.

The Board spent considerable time inspecting the new addition. Flin Flon, third largest centre in Manitoba, was named after Flintabatty Flonatin, a character in the story, "Sunless City".

Missionary Work Knox Sermon Topic

Her work in British Guiana, South America, was described to a large congregation in Knox Presbyterian Church last Sunday morning by Miss Nellie Anderson, a missionary who is home on furlough.

Miss Anderson, whose work is centered at Georgetown, British Guiana, is staying with her sister, Mrs. C. M. Hansen in Acton and visits different presbyteries during the week to describe her work.

The choir sang an anthem with Crawford Douglas taking the solo.

County Assessors Meet On Problems

The monthly meeting of Halton County Assessors Association was held Wednesday, Feb. 6 in Acton town hall. Chairman P. L. Spurgeon, Oakville Assessment Commissioner, presided with Secretary F. W. Crump, Acton Assessment Commissioner.

Present were Ford Rogers, County Assessor; A. W. Benton, Esquire; K. C. Lindsay, Esquire; A. O. Plummerfelt, Trafalgar; J. Gibbons, Georgetown; E. Marshall, Nelson; E. Dunham, Trafalgar; F. McNeven, Milton; G. W. Johnson, Burlington; J. W. McMillan, Nassagaweya; C. Readhead, Trafalgar. J. McGeachie attended representing Acton.

The chairman opened the meeting with remarks on various types of new dwellings being built and the proposed handling of these new dwellings. Modern heating requirements were discussed in conjunction with new buildings.

A county land value map was discussed at length and Ford Rogers was given the task of preparing this map for use throughout the county.

Mr. Rogers spoke briefly on a proposed discussion with the Department of Municipal Affairs regarding the adaptation of the new assessment manual for a future meeting. The delegates made a brief tour of the town to get a first hand view of the assessment problems in Acton.

PARENTS AND TEACHERS MEET IN SOCIAL EVENING IN ACTON ON TUESDAY

The Principal and staff of Acton High School were hosts to the parents of pupils at a delightful social evening in Acton Scout Hall on Tuesday evening. Cards, dancing and sociability and a tasty lunch all went to make a gathering for better relationship between school and homes. Prizes for court which were won by Mrs. Norman Morton and Mr. George Mason. There was a splendid attendance and Principal Robbins expressed the hope for more such gatherings.

Sgt. Angell on Way Home From Korea

Mr. and Mrs. George L. Angell, Church St., received word on Wednesday that their son, Sgt. Jack Angell, will be coming home from Korea. He has been in Korea for a year with the American army and is returning on rotation leave about March 1.

He is reported to have left Korea on February 3. Although not an American citizen he lived in the U.S.A. for about two years before enlisting. Mr. Angell is the agent at the C.N.R. station in Acton.

Finish Carpentry In New Y Kitchen

As far as Albert and Morris Van Gils are concerned, work on the new kitchen in the basement of the Y.M.C.A. is finished. Now the Y's Men are planning to take over with new linoleum, wood finish and lots of paint. And eventually, with enough money for a new stove and perhaps a refrigerator.

Cupboards have been built the whole length of one wall, with the stove built in and a space where a refrigerator could eventually be placed. The wall is attractively covered with green congo wall and the counters with grey arborite.

Natural finish will be put on the cupboard doors and the frames will be painted. The ceiling is to be painted and linoleum placed on the floor.

The sliding door is in smooth working order, with the door frame widened to allow trays to be carried through.

With more working and storage space, improved facilities and attractive surroundings, the new Y kitchen will soon look like an illustration of a model home in a brightly illustrated magazine.

UNITED CHURCH CHOIR NAMES OFFICERS, RAE WEST YEAR'S PRESIDENT

At the annual election of officers and social evening of the United Church choir held on Thursday evening, January 17, Rae West was elected president for the year. Vice president is Lorene Roszel, secretary, Muriel Burns, treasurer, Mrs. George Hollinger, town committee, Mrs. Clare Pickett, Mrs. John Gordon, special committee, Mrs. D. Van Fleet, Mrs. Wyman Little and Miss Shirley Holston.

The organist, Miss O. Lamport of Guelph, was unfortunately unable to be present, but was sent a bouquet of flowers from the choir. Games were played and then a lunch served.

OVER 60 ATTEND ACTON Y'S MEN'S PARTY AT THE BRANT INN

The Brant Inn at Burlington was chosen for the annual Y's Men's party held last Friday evening. Leaving the Y.M.C.A. in two buses, were 32 couples.

In charge of arrangements was Charles Kirkness.

The evening of entertainment and dancing was much enjoyed by the club members, their wives and friends.



MAJOR ERIC W. CLARKE and Mrs. Clarke have been appointed to take charge of the new Halton County Home for the Aged now being constructed just south of Milton on Highway 25. For the past five years they have been superintendent and matron of the Salvation Army Eventide Home for Men in the city of Guelph.

After Midnight Session On Sewerage Payments

Prolonged discussion on a settlement of contract holdbacks took Acton council one hour past their recently established midnight curfew when they held their regular session Tuesday evening. The after-midnight session was climaxed when the following resolution was passed with Councillors Taylor, Rognavaldson, and Irwin voting against: "that the Mayor and Clerk be, and are hereby authorized to pay the Spartan Contracting Co. Ltd. \$4,425.87, being holdback under sewer contract of \$6,221.97 less claims for defective work and for damages amounting to \$1,796.10 as filed with the clerk to date."

Mayor Rachlin pointed out that the committee had gone into the sewer payments very thoroughly. A holdback for construction work was evidently due the Spartan Contracting Co. in November, 1951 but the town withheld payment because claims for improper work and damage during installation had not been properly considered and the contractor was denying any responsibility in most of the cases. The company has been pressing for payment of the holdback contending that another is due in February which more than covers the amount of claims against the town. Council at their last meeting resolved not to pay the holdback until a settlement could be arranged through a meeting with the engineer, contractor and sewer committee. It was reported that no concrete arrangement could be made between these parties in dealing with the claims.

Sections of the contract with the contractor came in for close scrutiny in attempting to arrive at a decision. It was pointed out that there had been claims for improper work amounting to at least \$800 while only a third of the laterals in town had been installed.

Solicitor Leatherland advised council they were legally right in withholding payment if the work is defective. Mayor Rachlin pointed out that he was prepared to make an issue of it if council was willing to investigate possible costs. Solicitor Leatherland estimated an action to the Supreme Court would range between \$1,000 and \$2,000.

Summing up what seemed to be a general opinion, Mayor Rachlin commented, "It's a rotten situation". Mrs. B. Hall, who claims amounts totalling \$1,000 for damage to her property during the installation of a sewerage system, was present at council, because she "felt the letters had been just thrown aside". She pointed out that all the good top soil in her garden was gone and when she went out to the back yard it was just a heartbreak to look at it. Mrs. Hall suggested council consider lowering her taxes.

Mayor Rachlin suggested that as soon as the ground was clear enough of snow to see the damage, Mrs. Hall contact the clerk and sewer committee would arrange a meeting to view the property. K. J. Beamesh, contractors for the Main and Mill Street curbing, and paving program wrote pointing out that council had agreed to supply cement for the curbs at 80¢ cents. In the last invoice the cement had been deducted at \$1.10. It was explained that to avoid a delay in paying the streets, the town had purchased cement for the curbs which the contractor advised was not available. To speed up the job the town had bought cement at \$1.75 and sold it at either \$1.10 or 80¢ cents, it had not been decided.

A verbal agreement had been made with J. McMullen, sub contractor, that he would purchase the cement at \$1.10. He now ignored bills for the cement. A resolution that council pay Beamesh Construction Co. the difference between \$1.10 and 80¢ cents per bag on the McMullen contract on curbing, was passed.

Mayor Rachlin suggested the road committee investigate the possibility of installing a town fuel pump if they could not enter an agreement with a retail dealer for a cheaper price.

The Mayor expressed an opinion that if the purchase of gas should be put up for tender, there would be a saving unless by prearrangement the garages establish a price.

Deputy reeve Stewart said he thought it was hardly fair the operators should be asked to reduce their price. Councillor Rognavaldson said he thought one group shouldn't be asked to lower their price to the town unless all town purchases were reduced.

Councillor Taylor concluded that the job of council was to encourage business, not discourage it. Mayor Rachlin suggested that if there was sufficient volume the gas company might put in a tank and pump. "The gas would come in wholesale at considerable saving to the taxpayer," the mayor said.

A letter from the Department of Public Works sent credentials to vote at a meeting for the formation of a Credit Valley Conservation Authority. Dealing with the possible cost to the town if an authority was established, one councillor commented, "It can cost us plenty".

It was decided all other municipalities should be urged to attend and vote against the establishment of the authority. R. R. Parker was appointed to represent the town with J. Creighton as a substitute.

In a vague suggestion by Mayor Rachlin that the Library grant might have to be cut, Councillor Taylor launched strong opposition to the move. "I'm strongly opposed to cutting down that grant. They can't maintain a library on anything less than \$2,200. That's our only contribution to the cultural benefit of Acton, except to the band. It would be awfully small of us to go to that meeting and attempt to chisel them down."

Mayor Rachlin commented, "We can't overlook the financial condition of the town". It was agreed that some investigation be made into the original agreement with J. W. Wolfe regarding the establishment of a turkey farm near Bower Ave. before any action be taken or the matter be considered. It was (Continued on Page Four)

Constitution, Plans Precede Charter

Since the young men's night, with a speaker from Toronto, held in Acton Y on January 21, three meetings have been held concerning the formation of a Phalanx club in connection with the Acton Y.

Before a club may obtain its charter, a constitution and project plans must be submitted to the National Committee of Phalanx Clubs.

As yet, projects for the new club have only been discussed and the constitution is still underway. The executive was elected as follows: orimus Ken Adamson, president; Al Spanton, secretary; Bob Rowles, treasurer; Bob Cunningham, project committee; Dave Drysdale, Eddie McGilloy, program committee; Mel Blaw, membership committee; Don Clayton, lunch committee; Bill Taylor, Clarke Holmes.

The last meeting was held on Tuesday evening.

Re-Elect Officers Of St. Alban's WA

St. Alban's W.A. met at the home of Mrs. Tom Jones on Thursday January 31 with a good attendance. Reports were read which showed a very successful year.

Thank you cards were received from shut-ins who had been remembered at Christmas. Material to be purchased for the Mission bales.

The officers are to remain the same for this year and are as follows: President, Mrs. W. Denny, Secretary, Mrs. H. Jolley, Treasurer, Mrs. J. Creasey, Dorcas Secretary, Mrs. B. Bayless; Assistant Mrs. H. F. Holmes; Living Message Secretary, Mrs. H. Jolley.