

# The Acton Free Press.

Seventy-Seventh Year.—No. 43.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, MAY 1st, 1952

Ten Home Print Pages—Six Cents

## DISPOSAL PLANT GOES INTO OPERATION



**MR. AND MRS. W. H. McCULLOUGH** celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary last Saturday when they greeted more than 200 friends and neighbors at the home of their daughter, Miss Charlotte McCullough, R.R. 1, Georgetown. Mr. and Mrs. McCullough lived for 30 years on the fifth line corner and now live near Haltonville at R.R. 2, Rockwood. —Staff Photo

### Gas Blaze Claims Barn, Driving Shed, Thursday

OSPRINGE (Staff)—A barn and driving shed as well as stock grain and implements were lost this morning about half a mile north of here in a fire at the farm of Barry Clarke, who is employed in Acton. Efforts of the Rockwood and Erin brigades were unsuccessful and the blaze could not be halted. A busy telephone line delayed the alarm by precious minutes. The fire started about 9 a.m. and by 10:30 the buildings were levelled.

The blaze started in the driving shed where Hank Mulder was preparing to work in the fields. Filling the tractor with gas, some was spilled on the hot manifold and burst into flames. The shed caught fire as Mulder ran to the house to phone for aid. The telephone line was busy and he dashed to the road, got a ride on the milk truck to Ospringe and summoned aid. On returning, the shed and roof of the barn were on fire.

Fifteen minutes after the alarm the Erin brigade was on hand but the fire was out of control.

Attempting to pull the tractor from the shed it broke in two and the back-end was pulled out minus tires but including the disc that was attached to the tractor. Most of the implements were lost in the fire. Some pigs and cows were saved but the sow, pigs and calves, as well as two bins of grain and other incidentals were lost.

Equipped with 500 gallons of water, the Erin fire truck could not do much but prevent the fire from spreading. The well was too deep for the fire pump to lift water. Smoke was visible from Acton this morning as the inferno raged. Insurance partially covered the loss which was estimated at between \$10,000 and \$15,000.

Cows were kept from blocking the lane to leave access for the fire trucks as neighbors from miles around came to lend aid.

### ACTON DELEGATES ATTEND HAMILTON MEETING

Mrs. B. Mowat, Mrs. W. Gannon, Mrs. L. Youngblut and Mrs. A. Long attended the annual dinner meeting of the Provincial Chapter O.E.U. in Hamilton last Thursday. The ladies represented the Acton Duke of Devonshire Chapter. Guest speaker at the dinner was Mr. Edgar Bates, Dean of Women at McMaster University.

### FATHER AND SON BANQUET IS ADDRESSED BY C. T. SHARPE

The Father and Son banquet sponsored by Acton Y's Men's Club have grown in such popularity with the lads and dads of this community that the quarters will no longer accommodate those who desire to attend. We are told that some 45 tickets had to be stopped before the event was held because of lack of accommodation, a fact which the club regretted very much.

At any rate, every place was filled for the event last Thursday evening and it was big value in food for body and mind. Boiled turkey with all the trimmings in beautiful servings was served by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Y's Men's Club. It was very satisfactory and delightfully served.

President Garnet McKenzie was in charge of the program and President of the Y.M.C.A. Board, Ed Fournier extended a welcome to all. Introduction of the head table was made by Wes Wolfe and the toast to the sons was by Jack Croughan and Mr. Darnard, Y.M.C.A. secretary of Nappur, India, also spoke briefly.

Guest speaker was C. T. Sharpe, retired director of boys' camping in

### Treasurer Reports On Taxes Collected

Town treasurer J. McGeachie reported collection of \$45,369.23 in 1952 taxes up until Wednesday evening. Also collected was \$1,630.07 of 1951 taxes in arrears and \$184.06 in 1950 arrears.

Deadline for payment of the first installment of taxes was today. Total of the taxes to be collected this year is \$151,538.40.

### Find Sign, Fence On Town Property

A survey of Guelph St. between Bower Ave. and Mill St. showed that the large Ruddy sign on the south side of Guelph St. encroaches approximately nine feet on town property. It was announced at the last regular meeting of the Acton Planning Board on April 25. Thereon Jones, chairman, was in charge, with members E. Tyler, Wm. Mallocks, J. Stewart and B. Rachlin present.

In order to widen the road, it would be necessary to have the sign moved back, where it would be on private property. A fence is also on the road allowance.

The secretary was to write council that the board recommend the fence and sign be moved back to private property.

Chairman Jones suggested a letter be written to Esquimes council asking they send a representative to the next meeting, so the township may be approached regarding the future planning of Esquimes immediately bordering Acton.

The secretary, Frank Crump, read a letter from the Department of Planning and Development in connection with the Tony Sneyuk-James Sneyd property, requesting a copy of the decision of the magistrate. The secretary had already sent a copy to the department.

Membership in the Community Planning Association of Canada was renewed at a cost of \$3.

You've got to make allowances for boys in college, says a professor—weekly allowances.

### ACTON ASSESSMENT COMMISSIONER, FRANK CRUMP RESIGNS THIS WEEK

Acton council, in special session Tuesday evening, accepted the resignation of Assessment Commissioner Frank Crump, and decided to advertise for applications to be in before the next council meeting. Mr. Crump was hired by the town in May, 1950, to act as Assessment Commissioner and assistant clerk.

It was decided at the council meeting to hire a full-time assessor and accommodate him in the town hall rather than in the municipal office.

Council also felt it was necessary to secure a part-time stenographer for the municipal office and instructed the clerk to advertise. Mr. Crump's resignation is effective on May 3.

Mayor Rachlin reported that he had asked Mr. Crump to reconsider his resignation but that his mind was made up.

In his resignation, the Assessment Commissioner said, "I am forced at this time to ask council to accept my resignation as an employee of the Town of Acton, effective May 3, 1952."

"I wish to thank council for the cooperation I have received during the past two years of my employment and the opportunity given me to work for the town."

### Two Fire Alarms For Acton Brigade

Two fire calls within a week made a total of four calls for the local brigade within two weeks. On Friday afternoon, a tractor plowing a field south of Acton on the third line caught fire and the blaze threatened a nearby bush area should the tractor explode. A short circuit was blamed as starting the tractor fire and the operator was unable to bring it under control. It was extinguished by a fire extinguisher from the Acton truck.

A call on Tuesday afternoon took the brigade to a fire that had broken out in a compost heap next to a garage on the bowling green property. The blaze threatened the garage and was just leaping up the door as water from garden hose was applied just before the brigade arrived. The fire was quickly controlled by the brigade.

### Young People Plan, Organize Society

The younger members of the United Church gathered together on Monday evening at 8 o'clock to re-organize a Young Peoples Society. There were 27 present and all expressed their desire to see an organization get underway in the fall.

Ken Bieckel was chairman, with Annetta Van Fleet elected secretary for the evening. A group of three were nominated to form a nominating committee to bring back the names of 11 willing officers next Monday night to present to the group.

The meeting opened with hymn, followed by the Lord's Prayer in unison and a short devotional period. A film entitled "Last Date" was then shown which proved both very interesting and educational to the teen-agers.

All joined in a sing-song while the kitchen committee prepared pancakes with maple syrup and coffee. The meeting closed with the Mizpah benediction.

Mr. G. W. McKenzie was there showing his interest and willingness to help the younger generation of the town.

### Sewerage System Goes Into Action As Engineers Check, Double-Check

#### WEEK-END FISH MAY BE WINNERS

Cast that line! Lift that fish! While not as famous as Old Man River, local streams will gain immensely in importance to-day on the opening of the fishing season. Any of the creeks which have been like that song-famous river in "just rolling along" without a care will be jolted to-day, too, for many lives will be flung in, and likely, many fish will be pulled out.

On the first week-end of the fishing season, this paper is offering a free year's subscription to the local fisherman who lands the biggest trout within a 25 mile radius of the town. A phone call to this office on Monday will check each fish's place in the running. Weight and length of the fish will be required—and don't eat it too quickly. The staff photographer wants a picture.

Don't bother phoning about the ones that got away. A fish in the hand and photograph is worth two still in Old Man River any day. And remember it's trout that are eligible and not suckers or any other variety.

### Party Ends Year Of Nursery School

Wednesday afternoon in the Acton Y.M.C.A., mothers gathered with a group of excited young children to mark the closing of their first season of nursery school. The mothers were sponsoring the party and presented the ladies who directed the school with cups and saucers.

The pre-schoolers gave a concert of songs and games and refreshments were served.

The nursery school is sponsored by the Y Ladies' Auxiliary. There were 63 enrolled for the school. Working under Mrs. D. Price were Mrs. Fred Hunter, Mrs. Hilliard Price, Mrs. G. F. Wilds, Mrs. Aubrey Gervais, Mrs. J. McGilroy, Mrs. J. Hurst and Mrs. K. Graham.

### Reception Is Held At Parental Home

Married on April 24, 1902 in Georgetown, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McCullough celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at the home of their daughter, Miss Charlotte McCullough, Valley Brooke Farm, R. R. 1, Georgetown, last Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. McCullough lived for 30 years on the fifth line corner and now live near Haltonville on Rockwood R. R. 2.

The fiftieth wedding anniversary celebration was held at the home where Mr. McCullough's father was born in 1838 and where their daughter now lives.

During the afternoon and evening about 200 of their friends called to express their congratulations and good wishes.

Buffet luncheon was served by their granddaughters. The three layer wedding cake was made by their daughter, Mrs. Harold White of Guelph and decorated by her daughter, Evelyn.

Mr. and Mrs. McCullough received many lovely gifts and flowers from friends and relatives.

Acton's sewerage system is in operation. Motors began to hum, pumps began to work, sewage began to flow and engineers watched as the lever of progress was pulled, setting in operation a \$433,000 system that has been more than two years in the building. There were no bands on hand and no speeches were made. The austere occasion was nothing outstanding but the significance of the occasion was monumental for it climaxed years of preparation, construction and completion of the system designed by R. V. Anderson, engineer, to serve the Town of Acton as it continues to progress.

Upheaved streets, trench excavations, weather delays, years of planning and nights of meetings were ended, at least for a time, as the system takes over its task to serve a progressive community.

Superintendent of the system will be Jack Lambert, who has been Waterworks Supervisor for some time. His will be the task of successful and efficient operation of a system he is already familiar with through watching construction and constant study.

Of course, there is still grading and some landscaping to be done, but the plant is now operating.

Total cost of the system in debentures issued is \$433,000. This includes the cost of miles of subterranean passages that follow Acton streets, the pumping station at Agnes and Main Streets and the disposal plant at the third line site.

Deepest man-hole in the system is located at the corner of Knox and Main St. with the line buried at a depth of 22 feet.

The system has been referred to by qualified experts as the best disposal system in Ontario. If at any time a blockage or break should occur in one section of the disposal system, that section can be bypassed and the conditioning continued.

R. V. Anderson, consulting engineer and his employees, have designed the system and supervised its construction throughout. It has been a tremendous task, both for

A special tribute should be paid to the council members, volunteer workers, who acted in the interests of the town, to make plans, to supervise the actual installation, and finally make settlements which are not yet completed. Council meetings became a weekly event in 1950 and part of 1951 as council was burdened with decisions on construction and policy. Many evenings were spent in the next morning before council adjourned after clearing up as many difficulties as possible.

Special legislation through by-laws was necessary to insure the success of the \$433,000 system. A plumbing by-law that claimed many hours of study and investigation as well as lessons in plumbing practices was just one of the necessary items in connection with the installation of a sewerage system in Acton.

Special legislation through by-laws was necessary to insure the success of the \$433,000 system. A plumbing by-law that claimed many hours of study and investigation as well as lessons in plumbing practices was just one of the necessary items in connection with the installation of a sewerage system in Acton.

### No Decision is Given On Closing Of Bower Lane

No decision was given by His Honor Judge W. N. Robinson on Friday of last week at the conclusion of the arbitration hearing regarding the lane back of a row of Bower Ave. houses. Judge Robinson withheld his decision until he could view the lane and receive more written evidence from both parties. The matter originated when W. Wolfe asked the town to sell to him all or part of the entrance to the lane that passes the side of his Bower Ave. home. Council took action to close the lane, on recommendation of the Planning Board, and met strong opposition from the residents affected by the lane. The town sent the matter to arbitration at the hearing in Milton. Appearing for the town was C. F. Leatherland, for W. Wolfe was J. D. Lucas, and for the residents, L. Dale.

Solicitor Leachland reviewed the case for the Judge. He pointed out that in April 1951 an application was made for closing part of the alley. Council considered the request and referred it to the Planning Board who studied it. It was their opinion that it would be beneficial to the town to have a portion closed.

Council advertised the fact that they proposed to stop up an entrance and a deputation appeared at council. In December 1951 the by-law to close it was given two readings and left over for action of the 1952 council. In 1952 a by-law was passed referring the matter to the county judge for arbitration.

He explained that he had been instructed by council not to take sides in the arbitration. Mr. Dale contended that since no repair work had been done on the alley in some 60 years, the town had not assumed ownership and was therefore not entitled to close the alley.

Many legal aspects crept into the hearing and little progress was visible to the witnesses and group present. The Judge is to view the alley and will give a decision after receiving more evidence.

### Old Landmark Is Being Torn Down

That old building next to the Station Hotel on Mill Street that is being torn down this week is quite a landmark in Acton. Of course, it was built for hotel stables but the upper part of the building was known in the early days as Bell's Hall. Here were held dances, travelling shows, sales of bankrupt stock, etc.

It was the armory of Company 6 of Halton Battalion when it was organized in 1868, the year of the Fenian Raid. It was here under Capt. Allan that the battalion assembled to go to the adjoining commons for their drill in the evening. The soldiers wore red coats in those days and it was quite a colorful spectacle.

The old building has been used for various purposes since hotel stables became an unnecessary part of the premises. It was a garage, a storehouse and the last occupant was Acton Woodcrafts before moving to their new premises.



ENJOYING THE ANNUAL AT HOME of the Halton Junior Farmers are members of the executive and committee in the foyer of the Brant Inn, Burlington. Shown from the left are Dorothy Ingram, Harold Tyrrell, first vice-president; Joanne Julian, Mac Sprowl, president; Jean Peterson; Dave Pelletier, past president of the Halton club and provincial president; Lorna Lawrence, second vice-president. About 150 couples enjoyed the seventh annual event, highlight of the juniors' activities. —Staff Photo