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DEPT. APPROVES NEW ACTON SCHOOL



BEFORE AND AFTER scenes show Acton's decapitated tower as the town hall tower loses its steeple. Ajax workmen took the top off on Monday as the town council became wary of its weakened condition. The smaller picture shows the tower minus only some of the very point of the steeple and the larger picture shows the complete decapitation. The tower, when repaired, will remain intact to house the town bell and fire siren. The steeple will not be returned. —Staff Photo

Tower Topples Piece By Piece

Acton's Town Hall tower toppled this week, piece by piece as Ajax workmen removed the 70-year-old timbers from the now wobbly steeple.

Repairs were found necessary when condition of the town hall for fire alarms was investigated. The tower also houses the electric fire siren.

The erection of a town hall and lock-up was quite an important addition to the thriving town of 1911. But it met with storms of disapproval and controversy.

Beginning of the building was inspired at a meeting of ratepayers. Major William Allan proposed a hall and a good one, on a central site on the front street. He would have it constructed with stone on the first floor, main hall on the second floor, with society halls on the third floor and council chamber and lock-up in the basement.

The others' opinions varied, however, and the end result is the building as it stands today.

Council plans to cap the tower, sheathing the town hall and siren, but the pointed steeple will not be replaced.

Warden Wickson Host Annual Dinner

Warden J. M. Wickson was host last night to county officials and citizens of Halton County who have been and are presently prominent in municipal affairs. The event was held in the Trafalgar Memorial Hall, the first Warden's Dinner to be held here and a community centre of which Reeve Wickson and the township have every reason to pride. It was admirably suited for such an event.

We understand the ladies' group of Mun's Church had charge of the turkey dinner that was served. It was admirably done with a menu that was all inclusive, bounteous and splendidly served.

Mr. Victor Hall, a former warden and Reeve, was master of evening. There was a toast to the ladies proposed by Mr. K. Y. Dick. A toast to the 1952 County Council was proposed by Mr. George Currie and responded to by Mr. E. Lauder. Entertainment was provided by the Halton Sweethearts of Campbellville and Diane Abbott of Appleton. The guest speaker was that top after dinner speaker, Rev. Norman Rawson of Hamilton. He was in splendid form and not only kept his audience in a jovial mood but gave an address that left much food for our well-being.

Warden Wickson was honored by his fellow councillors when an address was read by Mr. Stan Fay and presentation on their behalf of a Lazy-boy chair was made by Emerson Ford. The warden in his reply thanked all for the co-operation given him in public life and briefly outlined some of the high-lights of municipal affairs that had taken place in his seven years as municipal work. They had been busy years in county and township.

Department Present Plan For Building Additions

North Halton High School District Board, in special session last Thursday, considered the proposal of the Department of Education for building of schools in Acton and Georgetown and an addition to Milton School and passed a resolution accepting the proposal of the Department and taking immediate steps to implement the proposal. The resolution also said the Board was not satisfied that the proposed program will fully cover the needs of Secondary Education.

The proposal outlined in a letter gave departmental approval for a new building in Acton with 3 regular classrooms; 1 library classroom; 1 general science room; 1 commercial room and a shop of 1400 sq. ft. The estimated cost including equipment is \$210,000 and the approved expenditure for purposes of legislative grant would be on this amount. This school would accommodate 200 pupils.

In addition to the facilities outlined above it will, of course be necessary to provide administrative and maintenance quarters, teachers' rooms, washrooms, etc.

In Milton a regular classroom of 700 sq. feet was approved at a cost of \$20,000.

In Georgetown the present school building should offer normal accommodation for 150 pupils. Approval was given for an addition of 1 classroom, 1 library classroom, 1 general science room and 1 home economics room of 1200 sq. feet. This would provide for an enrollment of 200 pupils. The estimated cost was \$120,000. The addition may be tied in to the present building and administrative and maintenance quarters, washrooms, etc. established as found to be convenient.

The plan calls for shop facilities for the Acton School and Home Economics for Georgetown. Pupils from these two schools will use these facilities. The present facilities for these subjects are presently crowded at Milton will be made available to pupils of Milton Public School for any free time. No auditorium-gymnasium were approved for any of the schools.

The letter also pointed out that legislative grants for the retirement of capital debt are in effect for the current year.

The Board was advised that assurance of the Municipal Councils should be secured and each municipality in which a school was situated should get similar assurance from the Municipal Board regarding the issue of debentures. The Board may then retain the services of an architect to prepare sketch plans of each project. These plans must be submitted to the Department for approval before final plans are made.

The Board at the meeting also discussed selection of an architect and a committee was delegated to work with the Secretary and furnish a report at the next meeting.

Members present at the meeting held in Milton were Messrs. Carbert, Woods, Dills, Blehn, Martin, Pickett and Brown and Chairman J. Bell presided.

Partially Scalped, Suffers Concussion

Partially scalped in a highway accident near St. Mary's last Saturday, Nandor Benjing, 28, of Acton, was hospitalized and reported suffering from concussion. Over 20 stitches were required to close the cut on the top of his head. He also suffered a broken nose.

Mr. Benjing had stopped his car to fix a tire, it was reported. As he was replacing equipment in the trunk, the car was struck from the front by a 1952 Ford driven by a Detroit woman who lost control of her car. The trunk door cut his head in the impact. He was taken to St. Mary's Memorial Hospital, where his condition is reported as fair. He was removed from the hospital yesterday.

Julius Otvos, passenger in the Benjing car, was thrown through the windshield and suffered bruises and a severe shaking up. Both are employees of the Corona Shoe Co., Acton.

Claim Cards Changed In County Assessor's Office

Charges of irregularities in the county assessment office are to be investigated, Halton County Council decided at their regular monthly meeting held Tuesday. The decision was reached after Nelson representatives tabled a petition from Nelson township council, that Allan Wright had presented certain evidence that changes were made on assessment cards by the county assessor.

A resolution empowering the assessment committee along with Ford Rogers, county assessor and county solicitor, are to investigate the charges and report back to county council of their findings.

Reeve Palmer, Nelson, explained Mr. Wright had appealed his assessment before the Judge and it was during the hearing it was disclosed charges had been made on assessment cards. Mr. Palmer said the Judge remarked that no person had a right to change a card unless it were the Court.

Mr. Palmer also stated he investigated with Mrs. L. Walker of the township and found that a building assessment could be reduced a certain percentage only after a certain number of years. She reported, he said, the county assessor disregarded this ruling.

"Inasmuch as the Judge has not handed down a decision in regard to the equalized assessment appeal, it would be wrong for this council to enter into discussion before that time," Reeve E. R. Luder, Oakville, remarked.

"This has nothing to do with the equalized assessment appeal. It is an individual affair," Mr. Palmer stated. However, council approved of Reeve Lauder's suggestion that the matter be cleared up by the committee.

The county assessor, Ford Rogers, was given permission to speak following council's decision. He said errors in mathematics were corrected and errors of judgment had also been corrected on assessors cards by his office. Where an error of judgment occurred, these were grouped and certain notation made before the cards were delivered back to the municipalities. He further stated this procedure was commonly practiced in other municipalities.

Mr. Rogers also informed members no person could change the figures on the assessment roll, but the field cards had been established to assist each individual assessor to reach a conclusion of assessing property. He also welcomed the investigation.

Council accepted the tender of McLeod, Young and Weil Co., Ltd., to purchase the \$250,000 debenture issue for the county's share of the cost of the Halton Centennial Manor. The issue was accepted at 100.923 with interest at 4 1/2 per cent. Sixteen tenders were received and considered by the finance committee, Reeve Lauder reported.

W. Groves, forest ranger of the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests, reported the county had purchased 400 additional acres which brought the total acreage up to 1,143 acres in the county reforestation program. Last spring 24,000 various types of trees were planted and it is estimated the sale of Christmas trees will bring in well over \$2,000 this year.

Several resolutions were endorsed. (Continued on Page Six)

FRIENDS SURPRISE MRS. M. McCULLOUGH AT HOME OF MRS. A. MANN

Mrs. Mel McCullough was completely taken by surprise Wednesday, December 3, when she walked into a large gathering of friends and faced a beautifully decorated bridal table heaped with mysterious gifts, at the home of Mrs. Alex Mann.

The recent bride, formerly Margaret Brown, was assisted in opening her gifts by Lynda Mann. A huge bouquet of multi-colored balloons above the bride was suddenly pin pricked and with a loud bang, the honored guest was deluged with confetti.

Hilarious games were planned by Santa Claus, the bride winning a candy cane.

Mrs. Alex Mann and Miss Isabel Smith, joint hostesses, assisted by Miss Ruth Smith and Lynda Mann, served a very dainty lunch concluding a happy evening.



WARDEN J. WICKSON presided at the year's final county council session on Tuesday and played host to Halton officials at the annual Warden's Dinner in Trafalgar Hall on Wednesday night.

OBITUARY Alfred Hemstreet Dies in 91st Year

At the fine age of ninety years, Alfred Hemstreet passed away on Friday last at St. Joseph's Hospital in Guelph, where he had been a patient for a week or so. Although his eyesight had failed, he was able to see about until his last illness. He had spent his life in Acton and Milton and was a native of Halton County.

Surviving are one daughter, Mrs. McKenzie of Belle River, Ontario and one brother, Mr. George Hemstreet of Milton, who is now in his 100th year. Mr. Hemstreet was a member of the United church and as long as health permitted, he was a regular attendant. He was a staunch Conservative in politics and took a keen interest in earlier years in all public matters. During his long residence of this district, he made many friends who honor his memory.

The funeral was held on Monday afternoon at the Victor B. Rumley funeral home. Service was conducted by his minister, Rev. E. A. Currey. Interment was in Evergreen cemetery in Milton. The pallbearers were Messrs. W. J. Oakes, Robert Lowrie, J. K. Gardiner, Fred Cleave, William Gamble and Clarence Gamble.

CHINESE FAMILY REUNITED HERE AFTER 17 YEARS; NATIVES OF KANTUNG

Reunited in Acton, Ontario, Canada, after 17 years, were Mr. and Mrs. Lee Kim and their two sons, Lee Yoke Lun and Lee Yoke Quon. The family were residents of Kantung in Communist China before Lee Kim came to Canada.

He has operated a hand laundry on Church St. in Acton for the past two years and the family were happy indeed when we called to see them soon after arrival. For over the past year, Mrs. Lee and the two sons have resided in Hong Kong.

While it is 17 years since Mr. Lee first left China, he has had several visits back to his native land. Two years ago he started plans to have his family come to Canada and join him in the new home here.

The oldest son, Lee Yoke Lun, is now 21 years of age, and Lee Yoke Quon is 14 years old.

Negotiations and immigration regulations were finally completed and Mrs. Lee and the youngest son sailed for Canada by boat, but the regulations were not cleared for the oldest son, Lun, to accompany them. He came by plane and joined the mother and brother and they all journeyed across Canada, arriving in Toronto on Sunday.

It has been an anxious two years for Lee Kim. Several times it appeared that arrangements would allow his family to join him here only to find that more difficulties had been encountered and the reunion seemed as distant as ever. Finally, all obstacles were cleared away.

Citizens of Acton will welcome the new family and wish them every success in the new home.

Canvass Nets Fine Tree, More Lights

Through the initiative of one businessman and the co-operation of all, including industries, Acton has a fine Christmas tree in front of the post office.

A plan hatched early this week was a reality on Wednesday when former workmen erected a fine Christmas tree and hydro employees attached the multi-colored lights.

Doug Manning, who sparked the effort, tells us the funds collected will add at least five more strings of lights to those purchased in former years, as well as covering the purchase of the tree. It is planned to put these additional lights across Mill St. to add to the gaiety of the season and brighten up the town.

Original plans called for a canvasser of the two main business blocks but as preparations were made, the canvass mushroomed until the whole town was included. It is definitely a co-operative effort of all creating a much gayed Acton scene.

GIFTS EXCHANGED BY I.O.D.E. MEMBERS AT CHRISTMAS MEETING

Amusing and practical gifts were exchanged by the members of Lakeside Chapter I.O.D.E. at their Christmas meeting on Tuesday, December 9 in the Legion Hall. The room was specially decorated, highlighted by a Christmas tree.

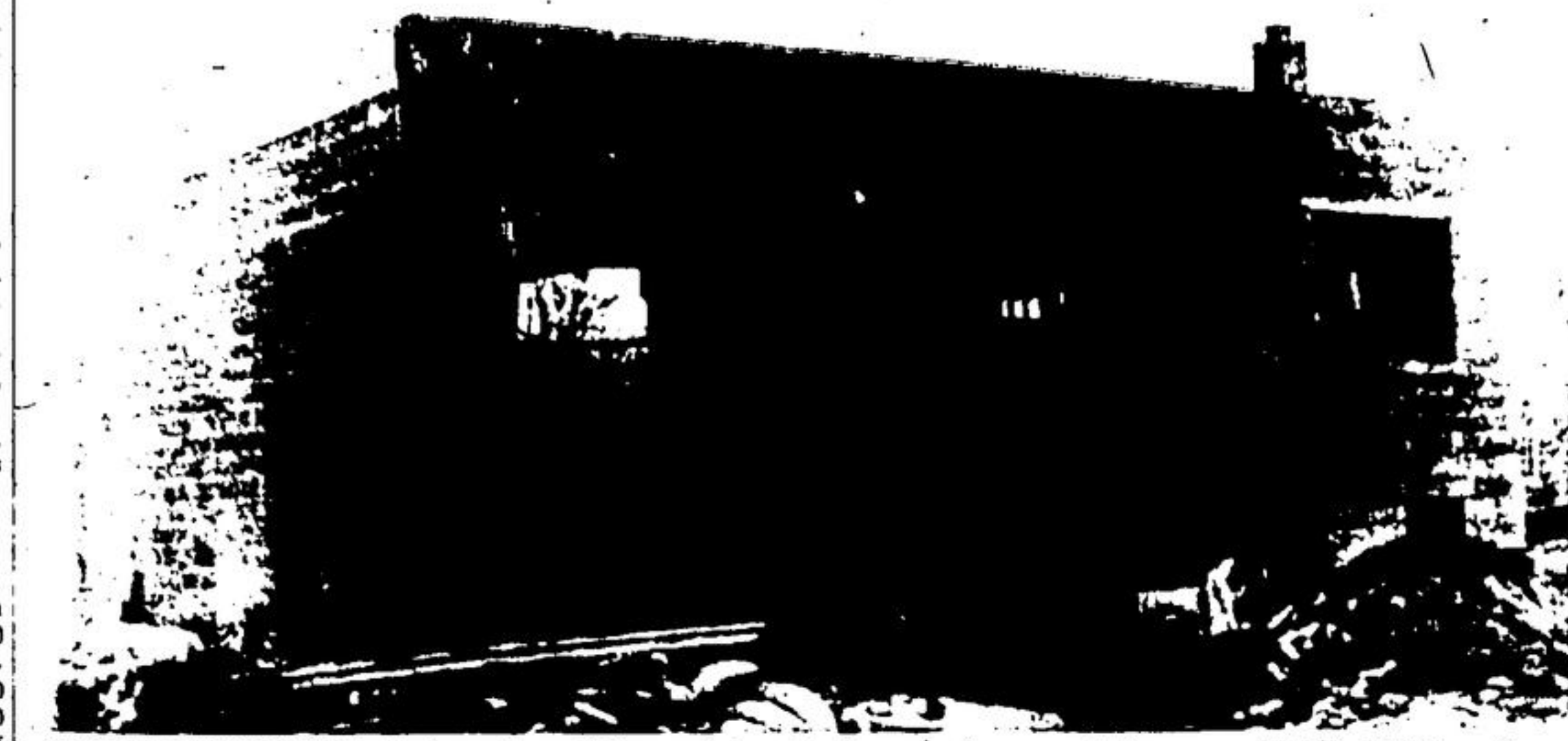
Regent Mrs. R. Bean presided for the business meeting, when annual donations to headquarters and local organizations were passed. It was decided to donate to the committee sending boxes to Acton servicemen, and toward a Christmas party at Halton Centennial Manor.

Mrs. G. McKenzie played the piano while Mrs. C. Leishman led a song away.

After the gifts were exchanged, refreshments, including Christmas cake, were served.

STILL GOING AHEAD

Canada's Boy Scouts Association membership is nearing the 140,000 mark. At the latest Quarterly census (Sept. 30) there were 77,980 Wolf Cubs, 45,250 Boy Scouts, 710 Sea Scouts, 672 Lone Scouts, 2595 Rover Scouts, 117 Rover Sea Scouts and 12,809 leaders, a total of 139,034.



COMPLETE WIRING is being done this week by Hydro employees at the new Public Utilities Commission garage and workshop on Alice St. The building is to accommodate P.U.C. equipment, hydro meters, trucks and workshop. The building is 36' x 30'. —Staff Photo

Steel Products Co. Options 70 Acres

The Austin Co., Ltd., contracting engineers, has optioned approximately 70 acres of land at Milton, Ont., for the Ontario Steel Products Co., Ltd. It is planned for future industrial development, the Austin Co. reports.

Piercing X-Rays To Hunt Acton For Tuberculosis

Dates to remember in busy December? This year in Acton there are other very important dates as well as Christmas Day and New Year's Eve. To some, they may well be much more important. December 18 and December 19 are the two dates to remember this busy December. Those are the days that the mobile X-ray clinic will stop in Acton, and a stream of local citizens will pass steadily through.

This week 56 Acton ladies are canvassing every home in town, distributing cards to every adult in the home to have filled out when they come for their X-rays next week. Each canvasser visits about 15 homes in the attempt to have an outstandingly high percentage of town residents X-rayed in this very valuable—and free—service.

In charge of the canvassers are Mrs. H. Helwig and Mrs. R. Parker.

Mrs. A. Long is directing the work of the volunteer clerks who will assist the two technicians with the mobile unit. Each of the two afternoons and each evening, there will be a receptionist, a supervisor and three clerks at the Y.M.C.A. on Mill St.

Canvassing began on Tuesday, after the volunteers met Monday evening in the Y to receive instructions from Dick Bean. He asked canvassers to stress that the ages should be filled in on each person's card, and the name of the family doctor. The report from the survey is completely confidential, and will be forwarded to this doctor if tuberculosis is suspected, he stressed.

He reminded the canvassers to suggest that no large buttons or metallic ornaments be worn by the ladies who come to be X-rayed and to reassure anyone in doubt that the process is very simple and completely painless.

Local industries and high school children already have their cards for their X-ray times, and others will come when convenient to the mobile clinic at the Y.M.C.A. Industry schedule will be found elsewhere in this paper.

In the 1947 Acton T.B. survey, 1,761 Actonians were X-rayed. Mr. Bean recalled, "This year I hope we'll beat that by 1,000."

The Women's Institute is canvassing the rural district around Acton, and families there are urged to come to Acton to be X-rayed. Anyone at all may be X-rayed. It is not felt necessary to X-ray preschool children and public school children. In 1950, 50,000 public school children in Ontario were X-rayed without a single case of T.B. being found. The Halton county Tuberculosis and Health Association expects to give a patch test to local children eventually.

Everyone should have an X-ray once a year, canvass organizers remind.

If you're not worried you might have tuberculosis, come and make sure; if you are a little worried, come and make sure too!

The dates to remember this busy December are next Thursday, December 18 and Friday, December 19. The hours are 2 till 5, 7 till 9, to ensure a Merry Christmas not just this year, but a Merry Christmas for years ahead.

Take advantage of this free service next Thursday and Friday, December 18 and 19—the dates to remember this busy December.