

The Acton Free Press.

Seventy-Eighth Year.—No. 24.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18th, 1952

Ten Home Print Pages—Six Cents

FINALIZE TWP. FIRE AREA AGREEMENT



RAGING FIRE destroyed a building in which sawdust and shavings were stored at Ajax Engineering plant on Tuesday evening about 5 p.m. Shown at its peak, the blaze started in the sawdust contained in the building and suddenly broke out quickly razing the frame building. Firemen worked for two hours but the sawdust had to be loaded on trucks and taken away to eliminate smouldering. Workmen worked late to eliminate any chance of it breaking out again. —Staff Photo

BLAZE THREATENING ACTON PLANT CONTROLLED BY WORK OF BRIGADE

Fire which threatened the plant and big piles of lumber stored around it broke out Tuesday afternoon about five o'clock at the Acton plant of Ajax Engineers. Prompt action of the men in the plant and Acton Fire Brigade kept the flames confined to the storage shed for shavings, where the blaze started. The main plant and all the lumber escaped any fire damage.

The storage shed, placed some distance from the plant, holds shavings. This is used for fuel in the winter and farmers are permitted to draw away the shavings for use. Trucks had been at the shed earlier that day and it may have been that a careless smoker, who had violated the strict rules was responsible for starting the fire.

When the Acton Brigade arrived a few minutes after the alarm was turned in, flames were through the roof and leaping skywards. Big black clouds of smoke billowed out and motorists passing on the highway had every reason to believe Acton was having another disastrous industrial fire. The building was metal clad and kept the flames confined until the Brigade had several streams controlling the fire.

Damage was all in the shed and

contents. That night, trucks and bulldozers cleared away the piles of shavings so that there would be no further danger. Superintendent William Coon made sure before going home there would be no recurrence and the Brigade stayed on the job until the last spark was uncovered and extinguished.

Thousands of feet of lumber were in the yard for work in the plant but were not touched by fire. Acton council arranged for Tom Watson's Restaurant to serve lunch to the men who went supperless and Mrs. Ted Tyler served coffee for the firefighters.

Damage sustained is estimated at \$3,000.00.

Ajax Engineers have had their plant in Acton for 20 years or more. The destroyed building will be replaced without hampering production in the plant.

As a token of the appreciation the Company felt for the work of the Brigade, they have offered to donate 1,000 feet of lumber to aid in the construction of the new fire hall that the Acton firemen are building to house equipment and hold their meetings. Officials from Toronto and Acton on Wednesday said they were most pleased with the fire fighting that was done in Acton.

Turkey Draw Held At Bingo on Friday

Ten turkeys were won by local ticket holders at the Y's Men's annual turkey draw held on Friday evening at the town hall in conjunction with a bingo. The hall was packed as Gerald Wick and Mayor-elect Dr. F. G. Oakes each drew five tickets from the container.

Winners of the turkeys were Mr. Phalen, Guelph St.; A. Kentner, Church St.; E. Dawkins, Agnes St.; O. E. Robbins, Brock Ave.; J. Wilson, John St.; J. Wood, Wilbur St.; T. Nellis, Georgetown; N. Hurren, Victoria Ave.; J. Benton, Limehouse and R. Nellis, R. R. 1, Acton.

Winners were asked to contact Lorraine Farns and J. W. Wolf will make arrangements for delivery of the turkeys.

As well as cash prizes of \$2 and \$3, two turkeys and two share-the-wealths, one for \$12.50 and the other for \$13.50, were won at bingo.

Orville Brown and Tom Jones called the numbers for the games. Proceeds are for Y's Men's community projects.

Remand Acton Man In Accident Case

Charged in connection with a fatal accident that occurred December 6 on the Guelph - Rockwood highway, Charles Shuttles, Acton, was again remanded when he appeared before Magistrate Watt on Monday. Crown Attorney J. M. Kearns, Q.C., suggested that the case will definitely proceed Monday.

J. Kenneth Blair appeared for the accused and asked for the remand, advising the court that the case was an involved one which he wished to study.

Eleven-year-old Jan Sloss, Rockwood district boy, was knocked from his bicycle and almost instantly killed, while riding along the highway near his home. The vehicle involved in the accident did not stop, according to police.

Publish Free Press For Christmas Eve

Next Thursday is Christmas Day! The Free Press will be published on Wednesday next week, and, to accommodate those with news items, advertisements and orders for printing, the Free Press will be open this Saturday from 8 a.m. till 6 p.m.

The newspaper office and printing plant will be closed on Christmas Day, December 25 and Boxing Day, December 26, and will be open again on Monday, December 29.

Display advertisements for next week's Christmas Eve edition must be in to the office by Monday noon and the deadline for classified advertisements is Tuesday at 4 p.m.

The office and plant being open Saturday will facilitate matters this busy week ahead, for those with reports of Christmas parties and meetings, personals or other news items; those with regular advertisements or special Christmas greeting ads; those with notices, announcements or classified advertisements, and those with printing orders.

The Free Press will be closed from Wednesday night until the next Monday morning, December 29.

Just five more shopping days until Christmas.

Urge Full Churches This Christmastide

The December meeting of the Ladies' Aid at Ospringe was held on Wednesday evening, December 10 at the home of Mrs. B. Bruce. With the president presiding, the meeting opened by singing the hymn, "Thou art the way; to Thee alone."

The devotional and study book were given by Mrs. Sinclair. The roll call was responded to by 11 members.

Reports were given on the finance fund and sewing course. Discussion took place on holding a demonstration and a bazaar, also the sending of a bale to Korea.

A reading was given by Mrs. Harris on "How Christmas is celebrated in different lands"; also a reading by Mrs. Sunter, "Lest We Forget," emphasizing that we need Christ in our Christmas and to fill our churches this Christmastide and truly celebrate the birthday of Christ, for that is what Christmas really is.

A piano solo, "Silent Night" was rendered by Mrs. Aitken and a splendid paper on "Sentier gladness, joy and mirth, all along the way of earth" was given by Mrs. Howard.

After the scripture reading, the meeting was brought to a close. A lovely lunch was served by the hostess with Mrs. W. Bruce and Mrs. Sunter assisting.

End Months of Planning Approve Area Agreement

Climaxing many months of negotiating and planning, Acton signed an agreement providing for the establishment of a Rural Fire Area at the year's final council meeting on Tuesday of this week. The area is to cover northern sections of Esquesing and Nassagaweya. W. Linham and C. Thomson of Esquesing and Nassagaweya were present at the meeting. Their two councils had already signed the agreement. The agreement calls for purchase of new equipment when accommodation for an additional truck is available.

Council agreed to an interim arrangement on which the township would pay \$50 for every fire call in the township, until the area went into operation with the purchase of new equipment to be manned by Acton Brigade.

Council approved the second chopped down High School building program calling for a new high school in Acton, at a cost of \$210,000; a four room addition in Georgetown at \$120,000 and an additional classroom in Milton at \$20,000. The proposal, approved by the Department of Education, was presented by G. A. Dills, one of the North Halton High School District representatives.

Mr. Dills pointed out that debentures issued about five years ago for a one-room addition at Acton and two-room addition at Milton would be paid up by next year and would almost equal the amount to be paid on the new proposal, making no appreciable difference in amount to be raised.

The total amount of the construction program is \$350,000, a reduced amount from the planned \$550,000 program. Mr. Dills explained that the department grant on \$350,000 would be between 70 and 75 per cent, with Acton paying 15 per cent of the remaining amount.

Assessment Report
Clerk McGeachie presented a break-down of the assessment roll which will be used for 1953 taxation. Residential assessment was \$1,430,940 or 60.6 per cent of the total; Commercial \$433,740 or 18.3 per cent of the total; Industrial \$432,167 or 18.3 per cent of the total; Farm \$36,300 or 1.6 per cent of the total; gross receipt \$27,828 or 1.2 per cent of the total. Grand total of assessment is \$2,300,084.

Submits \$3,733.95 Account
A letter from D. A. McConnachie, Trafalgar solicitor, submitted

A rebate of \$3.01 on waterworks frontage was given by A. Mercer. The lot was not serviceable and the account had been mistakenly submitted.

An account for repairing a motor, damaged during a power cut-off at the sewerage plant was approved, totalling \$43.45.

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Account	Amount
Bell Telephone serv.	\$ 47.30
Thompson Motors, balance of account	35.13
C.N.R. flashing light, bell	34.91
MacSwain Motors, balance of account	78.77
Can. Legion, wreath	11.75
Acton Free Press, adv.	55.92
Watson Dairy Bar, lunch	3.50
Corp. of Acton, hydro accounts	369.73
Acton Woodcrafts, balance of account	71.66
Symon Hdw., mdse.	114.70
W. D. Talbot, mdse.	52.01
H. H. Guy Cartage, trans.	3.15
K. J. Beamish, patching in front of Thompson's	200.00
J. B. Mackenzie, mdse.	19.50
Corp. of Acton, operations for Nov.	258.14
Halton Manuf. Co., welding casting for grader	8.00
Co. of Halton, hospital accounts	1477.43
N. McEachern, fire truck	17.85
	\$2,891.54

Sewer Report
Art Vine, lowering sewer laterals, etc. \$ 24.00
Lorne Garner Motors, balance of account 6.00
\$30.00

Poll Tax Or Nov.
Councillor Fryer asked what attempt had been made to enforce the collection of poll tax. He suggested that if the tax was not collectable, the legislation for collection be cancelled. The matter was left for the consideration of new members of council in 1953.

Legal action was authorized for the collection of three dog tax licenses not paid.

The Provincial Police reported no fines collected in November. Boxing Day was proclaimed a holiday.

Mayors Address Group
All members of the 1952 and the 1953 council were present. Mayor Rachlin, at the conclusion of the business said, "To the members of the 1952 council and the members of the 1953 council, I would like to say I have discharged the duties of my office at a great sacrifice to myself, both in health and financially. If at times I have taken issue with others, it was because I felt under a moral obligation to do so. No man wants to create antagonisms and I am no exception to the general rule. I wish the Mayor-elect and his council well for 1953 and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Mayor-elect Oakes explained that his attendance at the meeting had been very helpful and thanked those responsible for the invitation.

Mobile Clinic At Work Two-Day Acton Survey

This afternoon, tonight, and all day tomorrow Actonians and people from the immediate district will be filing through the mobile chest X-ray clinic, either at their place of work or at the Y.M.C.A. Thursday, December 18 (today) and Friday, December 19 are the dates to remember this busy December, and already the first Actonians have been X-rayed in the vast survey.

This morning the clinic was at Mason Knitting Co., Force Electric Products, Storey Glove Co. and the high school.

It has been estimated that already 250 were X-rayed this morning in the first lap of the two-day campaign to detect previously undiagnosed cases of tuberculosis.

The teachers of both the public school and high school had their X-rays this morning with the high school students.

Canvassers called at almost every house in town, last week, handing out cards to be filled in and brought to the clinic.

Any who might not have received cards or have lost them are urged to come to be X-rayed anyway, as there are more cards available there.

The public is being X-rayed at the Y.M.C.A. this afternoon from 2 till 5 p.m. and to-night from 7 until 10 p.m. These same hours are open for general T.B. X-rays tomorrow afternoon and evening as well.

This afternoon, the mobile clinic drew up at Baxter Laboratories for an X-ray of the employees there before coming to the Y.M.C.A.

Friday morning, X-rays are being taken first at Beardmore's, with almost four hours' work scheduled there. The Wool Combing, Micro Plastics and Ajax Engineering are also on the list for tomorrow's free X-rays.

Volunteer clerks, a receptionist and a supervisor will be with the mobile clinic when it is working to protect Acton citizens. They will assist in any way in the card room of the Y.M.C.A. where those who are X-rayed go.

Fined \$25, Costs In Accident Charge

Convicted on a charge of leaving the scene of an accident, Hendrick Jan Jensen of R. R. 3, Acton, was fined \$25 and costs by Magistrate Watt in court at Guelph Wednesday, with the alternative of spending 10 days in jail.

When asked to plead, Jensen, through an interpreter, expressed the belief he was not guilty.

Constable Archie McKendry told the court that Jensen had stopped on Erasmus Road, Guelph, before rounding the traffic island onto Wyndham Street. The car backed up and went right to the bottom of the hill, striking another car behind enroute. Jensen then had driven up the hill again and didn't wait to see what damage had been done to the other car. No defence evidence was presented.

110 EASY INSTALMENTS

"Some of you pedestrians walk around as if you owned the streets." "And some of you motorists drive as if you owned your cars."



RESUMING PRODUCTION in their new plant, officials of the A. P. Green Co. were on hand Monday evening when they played host to local groups at an informal gathering in the new building. Shown here examining some of the first products from the newly constructed plant are the Acton manager, G. Barbeau, vice president of A. P. Green, H. B. Plunkett of Mexico, Missouri, Mayor B. D. Rachlin and J. J. Offutt, vice president and general manager in Canada. —Staff Photo

Back in Production After Devastating August Fire

Canada's largest producers of quality refractory special shapes, the Acton branch of A. P. Green Ltd., inaugurated production this week just four months after the devastating fire wiped out the year and a half old branch. Marking the occasion, the firm was represented by local and United States representatives, when members of Acton council, Rotary club, Acton fire brigade, Y's Men's club, A. P. Green employees and representatives of Smith and Stone were entertained at the plant on Monday evening.

J. J. Offutt, vice-president and general manager of A. P. Green in Canada pointed out to the informal gathering that the firm was "winding up with a considerably better plant than we started with." He told the group, "We're happy to be back here with a plant that is going to be an asset to the company and to the community."

A film "Master of Fire" told of the extensive operations at the main plant in Mexico, Missouri, and emphasized the size and extent of the company. The main plant covers 41 acres of floor space.

Vice-president H. B. Plunkett of Mexico, Missouri, pointed out the plant was "in a mess" when first inspected by them but they had seen the possibilities. The fire, looking back, was just an incident, he explained. He brought a message of "very deep interest" from the parent company and explained that the products were now manufactured on four continents and sold all over the world.

"We like to be part of a community. We're happy to be with you again and we hope we'll be here for a long time," he concluded.

Mayor Rachlin expressed the town's appreciation to the firm for re-building in Acton. "Just four months ago, watching the building destroyed, I felt Acton might be losing an industry. The people of Acton are happy to re-welcome you."

Coffee and donuts were served to about 60 at the conclusion of the informal program as local men inspected the plant.

Absolves A. Brunet From Death Cell

An affidavit was filed by Leonard Jackson in his death cell nine hours before he was hanged, absolving Anthony Brunet and Louis Stavroff, now serving 15 years imprisonment for a Toronto bank hold-up, it was revealed on Tuesday.

Brunet was charged with receiving stolen goods following a break in at Storey Glove Co. just two years ago. The affidavit states that these two men were improperly convicted of the Toronto bank hold-up and were not in the bank.

The two men were identified at their trials by members of the bank staff.

KINDERGARTEN PUPILS ENTERTAIN MOTHERS, FRIENDS THIS WEEK

Both morning and afternoon kindergarten classes combined to put on a program in the public school auditorium on Wednesday afternoon. About 100 mothers and friends watched over 80 youngsters with their teachers, Mrs. Shirley Dills and Miss Jenn Kirby.

The young pupils played games, sang songs, acted out dramatizations and the afternoon class rhythm band played selections.

Principal G. W. McKenzie spoke briefly.

The youngsters each had a gift for their mothers—decorated wall plates they had made.

PANTOMIME, CAROLS FOLLOW GRQP'S STUDY OF OPERA

Cavalleria Rusticana, a short opera by Mascagni, concluded the study of opera when the Music Study group held its last meeting of the year on Monday, December 15 at the home of Mrs. W. Beatty.

Taking part in the study were Mrs. B. Veldhuis, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. C. Heard, Mrs. C. Pickett, Mrs. C. L. Poole and Miss Pearl Smith.

The president, Mrs. M. McCullough, was in charge.

After the singing of Christmas carols and a pantomime of "The Night Before Christmas," Santa Claus distributed gifts from beneath the Christmas tree.