

BEGIN PLANS FOR NEW HIGH SCHOOL

Art Benton Heads Assessors' Ass'n.

Arthur Benton of Esquesing was elected chairman of the Halton County Assessors' Association and Frank McNeil, Milton, was named secretary, when the group met for its regular monthly meeting in Oakville recently. Mr. Benton succeeds Percy Spurgeon of Oakville, who was chairman in 1952.

The morning was given over to a general discussion of problems, including those relating to exempt properties, grants in lieu of taxes and the assessment of provincial and federal government properties. Mayor Black welcomed the assessors and presided at a luncheon at the Oak Villa. Two guests were present, Richard Baxter, assessment commissioner of New Toronto and Larry Donovan, assessment commissioner of Etobicoke township and president of York Co. Municipal Association.

In the afternoon, the members listened to an instructive address by W. Bentley, valuation officer of the Charles W. Farnock Co., Hamilton, on the subject of industrial assessment.

OBITUARY

Dies at Eden Mills In Her 95th Year

After only a brief illness, Mrs. Isabella Torrance Hewat passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Thomas Scott, Eden Mills, on December 17. She was in her 95th year. Born at Everton July 3, 1858, she was a daughter of the late William Torrance and Jane Bowes, who came to Canada and this district from Scotland. She was the last surviving member of a family of nine.

Her husband, the late Thomas J. Hewat of Rockwood, predeceased her. Surviving are two daughters and one son, Mrs. Andrew J. Aitken, Acton; Mrs. Thomas Scott, Eden Mills and Mr. A. R. Hewat, Toronto. Ten grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren also survive.

Mrs. Hewat was a faithful member of Rockwood United church. The funeral was held at the Rumley Funeral Home, Acton on December 19. Rev. J. Oliver, her pastor, was assisted in the service by Rev. Fred Williamson of Eden Mills Presbyterian church. Interment was in Rockwood cemetery. Many beautiful floral tributes bore testimony of respect. The pallbearers were three nephews, Arch McNabb, Wm. Pasmore, Wilbert Guild and Ross Gordon, John Little and Alex. Monroe.

Happy New Year

May the New Year bring you every promise of good health and happiness... and leave you with each promise richly fulfilled.

May each day unfold new opportunities for warm friendship and splendid achievement... and each month be a milestone in your steady forward march to better things.

May 1953 prove one of the brightest pages in your memory book... because of what it did for you... your loved ones... your country... your world!

Architects Engaged For High School Buildings

At a special meeting on Monday night, North Halton District High School Board engaged the services of Barnett and Reider, architects, to make preliminary sketch plans and take steps to implement the building program in Acton, Milton and Georgetown. The Board had over a lengthy period heard from about 30 architects. The choice had narrowed down to two well-known firms. Shore and Moffatt and Barnett and Reider were these two firms who presented their outline of procedure to the Board and on a close recorded vote, the latter firm was chosen for the work.

EDEN MILLS

W.M.S., Ladies' Aid Meet at Eden Mills

The Christmas meetings of the W.M.S. and Ladies' Aid of the Presbyterian Church were held on Monday afternoon in the home of Mrs. Garnet MacDougall, with a fair attendance. The president opened the W.M.S. with a poem and a Christmas Carol. Devotions were taken by Mrs. Anna Coulson and Mrs. Minnie. Several items of business were dealt with and delegates appointed to attend the Presbyterian Annual to be held in January. A reading was given by Mrs. W. McLean and roll call was answered by a great moment in the life of Christ. The Lord's Prayer in unison brought the meeting to a close.

Mrs. Herb Gilbertson opened the Ladies' Aid with prayer. Several letters and cards from sick and shut-ins were read; also a number of seasonal "thank you's" were given. Roll call was answered with an exchange of gifts. Readings were given by Mrs. Garnet MacDougall and Mrs. R. Boy. Duets by Patsy and Rob Roy, a solo by Brenda Wright and a duet by Mrs. W. McLean and Mrs. R. Wright, were all enjoyed very much. Christmas carols and the Mizpah benediction closed the meeting. A social half hour was spent over the tea cups.

The many friends of Mr. Clarence Ramsey will be pleased to learn he is able to be home from hospital, although still confined to bed. All wish for him a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lemmer and family of Etobicoke are spending the holidays with Mrs. Lemmer's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lowrie. Mr. Joseph Lasby of Toronto spent Christmas Day in the home of his father, Mr. W. A. Lasby. Mr. and Mrs. Murray McAlpine of London were week-end visitors with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George McAlpine.

Mr. and Mrs. James Daniel and daughters, Mary and Grace; also Mrs. Ellen Daniel of Toronto, spent several days at Christmas with Mrs. Daniels' parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Lowrie.

Mr. and Mrs. George Ramsey of St. George visited the former's brother, Mr. Clarence Ramsey and Mrs. Ramsey on Saturday. LAC and Mrs. Fred McNeil and daughter, Linda and Gail, have returned to Rockville after spending two weeks with Mrs. McNeil's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Milne.

The very best wishes of the season to the Editor and Staff of the Free Press.

BREAKING IN EASY

Boss: "You are 20 minutes late again. Don't you know what time we start work at this factory?"
New employee: "No Sir, They're always at it when I get here."

Both Shore and Moffatt and Barnett and Reider have had considerable experience in school building and have several schools now in the course of construction. The Board heard minute details and saw pictures of several of the schools in which these firms have been architects.

The Board expressed regret that Mr. Walter Birn of Georgetown would not be a member next year in view of the fact that the Public School appointment would be from Esquesing.

G. A. Dills expressed appreciation of the leadership given by Mr. J. Bell, the chairman and the success which had culminated his efforts in getting a start on the building program and the Board heartily concurred with this expression of appreciation.

Members present at Monday's meeting were Messrs. George Cleave, George Brown, C. E. Wood, Dr. Milne, A. Beaumont, N. Pickett, Dr. C. Martin, R. Carbert, W. Biehn and G. A. Dills and chairman J. Bell presided.

Two Injured as Car Hits Stopped Truck

Facial cuts requiring 50 stitches to close and a skull fracture by the left eye were suffered by Mrs. Jack Louth of Norval in an accident a mile east of Georgetown on Saturday, December 27. Mr. and Mrs. Louth were driving east when their car crashed into the back of a truck which was broken down.

Mr. Louth suffered a fractured right knee cap and a cut on the left arm which required three stitches.

They were attended at the scene of the accident by Dr. McAllister and taken to Brampton hospital.

Their '37 Plymouth was a total wreck. The driver of the two and a half-ton truck, W. Mozil of Glen Williams, was not in the truck at the time of the accident.

\$1,800 Deficit Reported On Sewerage Operations

At the final meeting of the Public Utilities Commission held this week, Secretary J. McGeachie presented a report on the expenditures of the sewerage department. A deficit is shown of slightly over \$1,800 after allowing \$12,000 for debentures on this year's operation. The waterworks department, it is expected, will show a surplus of around \$2,500 after paying all debenture charges. Before making any transfer of monies to the departments, it was decided to have the auditors prepare their statement and then a transfer would be made.

A letter from the Hydro Electric Power Commission auditing department notified the P.U.C. that there was a surplus in the street lighting account of \$578.99 and \$121.71 in the waterworks operating account. This surplus is the extra paid the P.U.C. during 1951 for electrical energy above cost and by motion, these amounts were ordered to be returned to the respective departments.

A letter from Engineer R. V. Anderson enclosed profiles of lamp holes in the sewerage system. Mr. Anderson also stated that the contractor would look after a valve at the supernator. Competent men are to check the operation of the heat exchanger and also a switch which had to be replaced, early in the new year.

Chairman MacArthur thanked members of the commission for their co-operation during the year and the following accounts were passed for payment:

| Waterworks | |
|---|----------|
| J. Ridley, hauling chips | \$ 90.00 |
| C. Robinson, hauling chips | 36.00 |
| Town of Acton, stone | 62.02 |
| Bilton & Perry, supplies | 15.70 |
| MacDonald Elec. contractor | 13.44 |
| Art Vine, labor | 74.50 |
| Hamilton Excavating, shovel & bulldozer | 325.50 |
| Williams Supply Co. | 14.16 |
| Williams Supply Co. | 25.57 |
| Canadian Brass Co. | 42.62 |
| Synon Hardware | 6.09 |
| Neguptone Electric | 12.33 |
| J. Lambert, garage rent | 24.00 |
| | \$752.18 |
| Hydro | |
| Petty cash, exp. & trans. | \$ 11.94 |

Slight Increase In Seal Response

Response to the Christmas seal campaign, which is still underway, is "slightly better than last year," states Gordon Oer, who is in charge of local returns. So far this year, \$554.70 has been sent in and some donations have not yet been received. Last year's total was \$557.10.

Christmas seals were sent from the local headquarters in Oakville to homes in Acton and the district and returns were made to Mr. Oer at the Bank of Montreal. Receipts are sent from Oakville.

This free-will offering from the public is the only way that funds are raised for tuberculosis work.

| | |
|---|------------|
| MacDonald Elec. mdse | 209.75 |
| Lionel E. L. Davey; meters, repairs, etc. | 15.50 |
| Synon Hdwe., nails | 45 |
| Jas. R. Kearney | 26.50 |
| G. H. Wood Co. | 31.19 |
| Northern Elec. connectors | 17.04 |
| Ellis & Howard | 139.22 |
| HEPC, power consumption | 8899.23 |
| HEPC, lamps | 21.84 |
| HEPC, rental of meters | 87.50 |
| Reg. Gen. of Can., meters | 4.50 |
| Roxey Theatre, admission tickets | 10.00 |
| F. Terry, stamps | 15.80 |
| Dominion Hotel, dinner | 38.50 |
| | \$9,528.16 |

Reeve G. Leslie Host at Dinner

Reeve George Leslie was the genial host at a turkey dinner on December 17th at the McGibbon Hotel in Georgetown when fellow members of council and township officials enjoyed the fellowship of fine food and sociability after a busy year of township business.

Among Reeve Leslie's guests were Messrs. Le Roy Dale, solicitor; Fred Chapman, manager of the Bank of Commerce; K. C. Lindsay, treasurer; Arthur Benton, assessor; I. M. Bennett, clerk; Wm. Hulls, building inspector; Deputy Reeve Wilfred Bird; Councillors George Currie, Wm. Schenk and Walter Linham, W. E. Townsend, Herbert Roshier, Robert Lindsay, Sam Milham, Wm. Corley and Wes Louth.

Messrs. Le Roy Dale and Fred Chapman spoke briefly and others expressed the feeling of co-operation that had been shown in the township work of the year and appreciation of the leadership given by Reeve Leslie.

L. W. Lovell Heads Acton Masons 1953

Officers of Walker Lodge A. F. and A. M. were installed in their respective offices on Monday night when W. Bro. H. L. Ritchie was installing Master, assisted in the work by other Past Masters of the lodge. Several officials of Wellington district were present, among whom were Rt. W. Bro. J. F. Heap, Grand Junior Warden and Past D.D.G.M. Tommy Green of Guelph.

Following are the officers of Walker Lodge for 1953: I.P.M., A. J. Buchanan; W.M., L. W. Lovell; S.W., E. S. Cooper; J.W., G. F. Wingate; Chaplain, W. M. Cooper; Treasurer, R. H. Elliott; Secretary, G. H. Musselle; S.D., S. F. Snow; J.D., A. C. Patterson; I.G., N. L. Bowles; D.O.C., J. B. Watkins; S.S., L. R. McKersie; J.S., J. H. Reid; Junior Officer, S. K. Joe; Tyler, J. Lambert.

OBITUARY

Former Actonian Dies in Hamilton

The funeral was held in Acton last Wednesday afternoon of Mrs. Wm. Gillman, a resident of the community for many years. She passed away in Hamilton General hospital on Sunday, December 21, in her 81st year. Born in Lancashire, England, Ruth Tweedie came to Canada over 50 years ago. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Tweedie.

It was in Acton that her first husband, the late Sunderland Taylor, passed away. In 1919 she married William Gillman of Glen Williams and left this community. Surviving are her son, George, and grandson Ronald Taylor of Hamilton and two sisters, Mrs. R. L. Gregory, Oakville and Mrs. Edgar Durston, Guelph.

Mrs. Gillman attended the United church and the funeral service here was conducted by her pastor, Rev. H. A. Bagnall of Hamilton. Interment was in Fairview cemetery, Acton. The pallbearers were Messrs. Cecil Barton, Lloyd Barth, Edward Bludd, Donald Goddard, Frank Sykes and Frank Gillman.

Magician, Juggler Accompany Santa

Santa Claus had his throne and bags of gifts on the stage of the Roxey Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, December 23, for the annual Beardmore Christmas party. Between 350 and 400 children came to the stage as their names were called, and received gifts from Santa with their own names on the tag.

The younger children were given Christmas stockings of gifts; fountain pens were given to the older girls and jack knives to the older boys.

Entertainment and a sing song were enjoyed by the children and the few parents who also attended. Acts were by Helen Meline, an accordion player; Jay Esti, a magician and Buddy Clark, a juggler.

R. Parker acted as master of ceremonies.

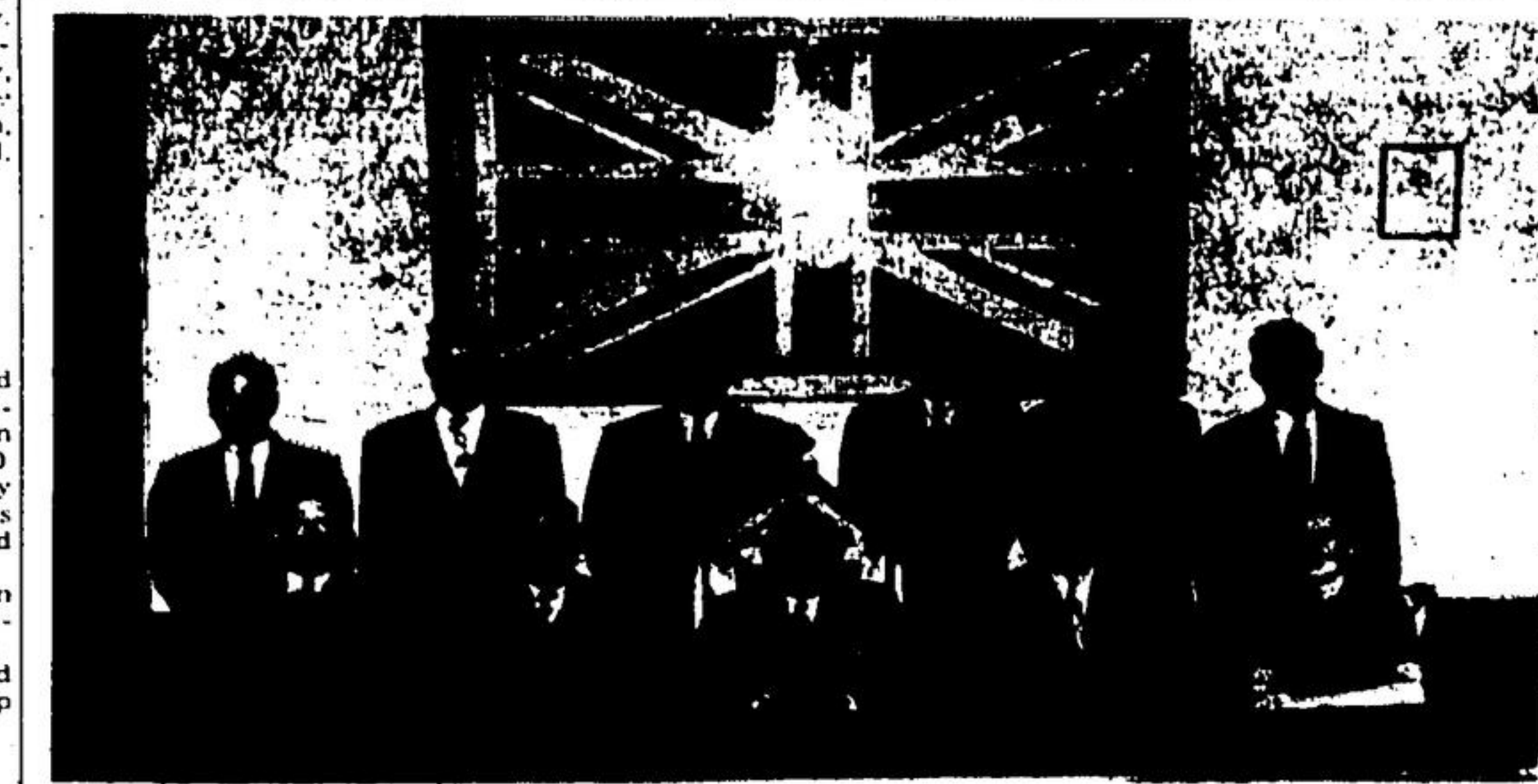
Santa Gives Gifts At Legion Party

About 250 received gifts and candy from Santa Claus at the Legion Christmas party in the town hall on Saturday, December 20. Toys, sets of small dishes, hockey sticks, necklaces and vanity sets were among the presents Santa had for the youngsters present.

Max Storey, next year's Legion president, acted as master of ceremonies. Members of Acton Citizens' Band provided the music and the group sang.

WAY OUT

Following a series of rows with his landlady over his two cats, a retired civil servant at The Hague strangled the landlady, hanged the cats, and gassed himself.



RETIRING COUNCIL OF 1952 is shown here at their final meeting of 1952 held recently. The present council is in office until the newly elected representatives are sworn in at the inaugural meeting. Shown from the left in the back are Clerk J. McGeachie, Councillors A. Irwin, R. Thompson, L. Wiecek, Solicitor C. F. Leatherland, and Councillor A. Fryer. In front are Councillor C. Rognvaldson, Reeve J. Hargrave, Mayor B. D. Rachlin, Deputy Reeve J. J. Stewart and Councillor E. Taylor. —Staff Photo