

A. P. Green Fire Heads Year's Ten Top Stories

The A. P. Green fire gets the number one spot as Acton's most important news development in a new year-end series of the ten top news developments of 1952. The \$100,000 fire razed an Acton industry in a few hours and since that August 16 night the entire plant has been rebuilt and is producing products for the customers it had developed during less than a year and a half that it had been in Acton. Because of the loss of property and the rebuilding of the industry this news development was awarded top spot in the most important 10.

Other developments in order of importance are, the increase of Acton's mill rate by 50 per cent to an all time high of 64; the beginning of operations at the sewerage plant; the official opening of the new public school addition; the death of King George VI; the double election for the choosing of a 1952 mayor; the favoring by townships of a new school in Acton; the broadcasting of Acton's greetings from coast to coast on New Year's Eve; the working of mutual aid and rural fire protection; and the official opening of lacrosse in Acton after a lapse of nearly 50 years.

It was after hours of discussion and heated controversy that Acton council brought down a mill rate for the year reaching an all-time high. Several items were cut from the original estimate in an austerly move. Firemen's requisition, library grant and other items came in for heated discussion. Because of the new peak reached and because of the importance to the town generally, this story was chosen for the number two spot in the top ten.

On May 1, Acton's sewerage system swung into action, climaxing several years of construction, investigation and other difficult phases. The \$442,000 system went into operation in May to make Ac-

ton's services complete and constituted the town's largest debt—reaching very close to the half million mark. Because of the importance of the addition to Acton's development, this news development ranks third among the top ten.

Premier Leslie Frost officially opened the new public school addition, climaxing a term of construction under the school board that inaugurated and completed the program. The \$227,000 project was approved by the ratepayers and the first tenders were awarded in January 1951. Because of the importance of the addition to Acton's future and present needs and because the official opening was by Ontario's Premier, this news development rated fourth place.

The death of King George VI shocked the people of Acton and district as it did the world. A special service was held and was well attended by many from the district, with a message of sympathy being forwarded to the new Queen Elizabeth. Ranking fifth in the Acton news of the year, this event is the only one not distinctly local. It was chosen because of the historical significance and the part

Acton played in the occasion that affected the entire Empire.

Record voting and two mayoralty elections sparked a general increase in the interest accorded municipal affairs in Acton. Thomas Salmon was elected Mayor at the regular election and because of ill health was forced to resign before taking the position at the head of the 1952 council. A second election was necessary with a four-way contest, in which the present incumbent Mayor Bachlin defeated the other three contestants.

Rating sixth in the top news developments this event was unique in the necessity of two elections. It was also chosen among the top events because it was indicative of a mounting interest in municipal affairs.

In April of this year, the townships favored a new high school in Acton and curtailment of construction in the other two townships of the North Halton High School District when the board presented a proposal for approval. It was not until a few weeks ago that the board brought their plans into line with those suggested much earlier by the townships, and received tentative Departmental approval.

Because it is the first significant step towards construction in the district, this development was awarded the seventh place in the year's developments.

Acton greetings were carried coast to coast on the Trans-Canada network of the CBC from the New Year's Eve party in the town hall. Following the broadcast, many letters were received in town commenting on the "rousing welcome" to the new year.

Because it was something new to the CBC and afforded Acton a unique opportunity of publicizing itself this event received the eighth position in the major events of Acton 1952.

Fire protection received a noticeable boost in the year with plans

inaugurated and completed for rural fire protection to Keesling and Naasagaways. During the year the mutual aid system inaugurated in Halton county and now copied in several Canadian and U.S. centers receive its first operation and first practice.

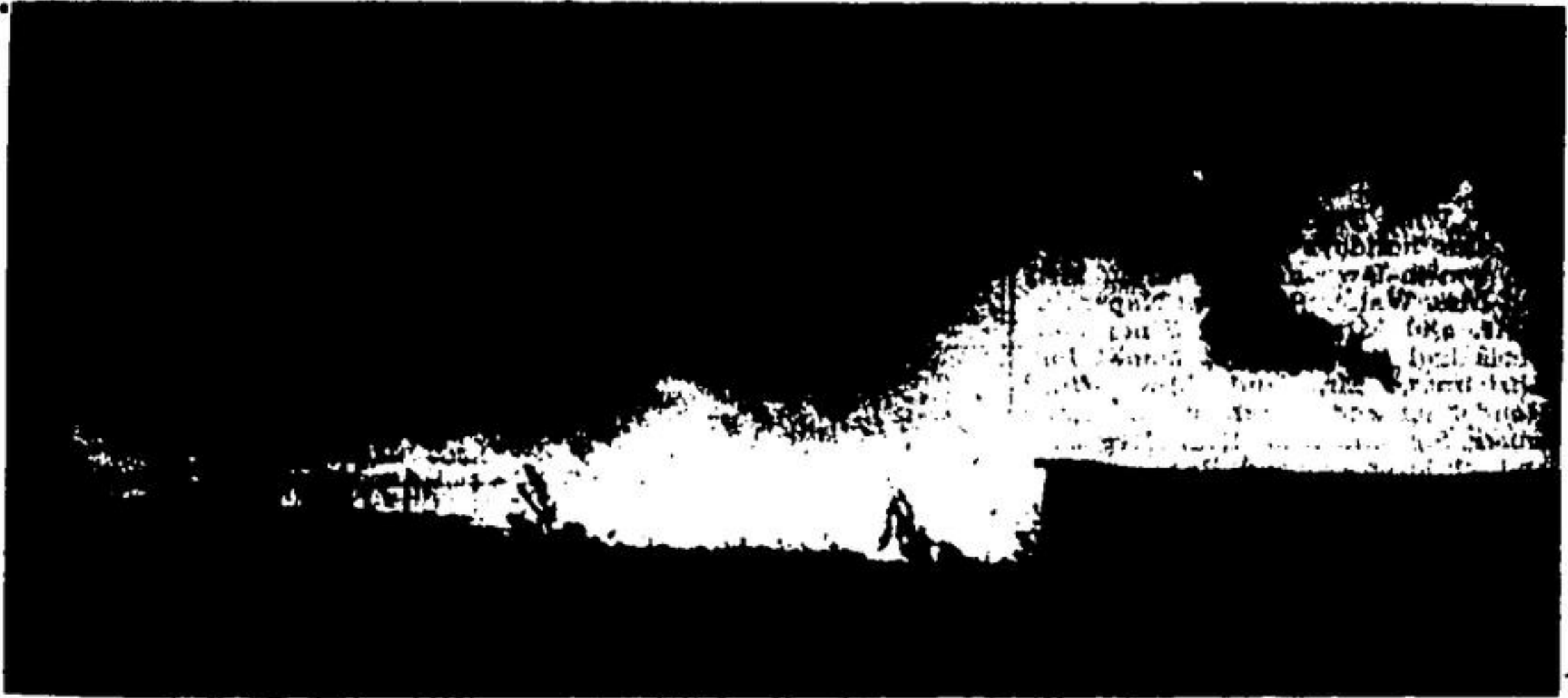
Because of these important advances in the war against fire the local improvements have provided the ninth most important news development of the year. The attempt of local firemen to provide the town with a new fire hall adds considerably to the importance of this development.

Also rating as one of the significant news developments of the year was the revival of Lacrosse in Acton after a 50 year lull. The sport was well received by the town and interest zoomed among the children who suddenly seemed lost without a lacrosse stick. This enthusiasm obtained for this news development one of the top spots.

LEAK STOPPER

A recently released adhesive seals any leak instantly, and sticks to anything. It can be used to mend pottery, dishes, garden hose, plumbing, toys and plastic. It sets almost instantly and it is said that you can drive a nail through your gasoline tank when it is full and instantly seal the hole with this material. It is unaffected by gasoline, water or almost anything else.

The 8,000,000 people in New York City's five boroughs include more Italians than there are in Venice, more Germans than in Kiel, more Irish than in Cork and Limerick combined, more Russians than in Stalingrad, more Jews than in Palestine. It has a waterfront of 578 miles, 1,765 churches, 29,000 eating places, and four municipally sponsored colleges.



Most costly fire in 25 years razed the A. P. Green Fire Brick plant in August



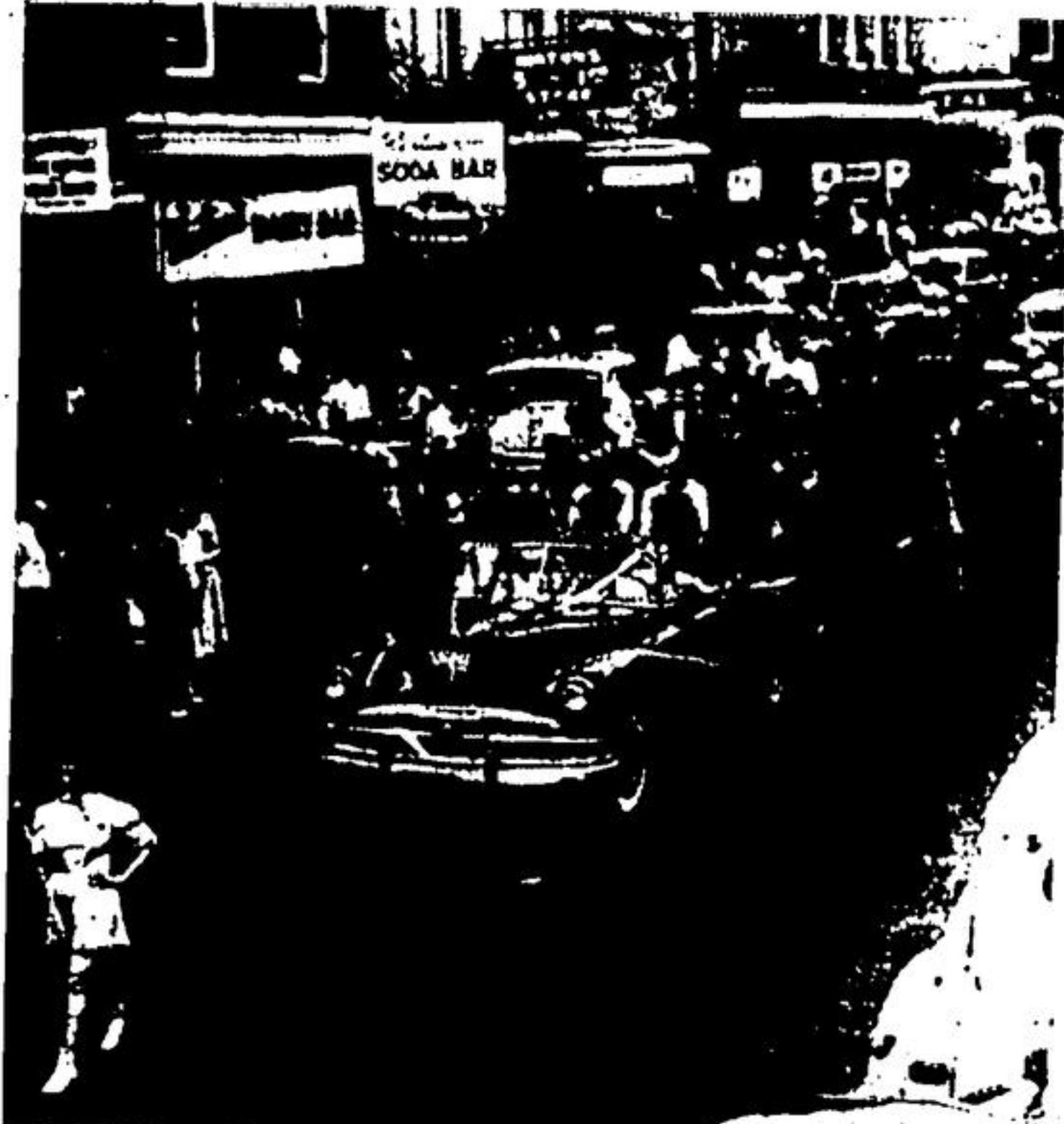
Cleaning-up operation began immediately after the \$100,000 Green fire



Resuming production just four months after the disastrous fire, officials examine the first products



Hon. Leslie Frost officially opened the public school addition in Oct.



Lacrosse season opened with a parade after a 50 year lull



"Happy New Year to the people of Canada" were Mayor Tyler's words as Acton greeted 1952 on the CBC



Seven trucks assembled in Milton as Halton's Mutual Aid system received its first workout



Operating in May, Acton's Sewerage System added the town's largest debenture indebtedness and completed two years of construction