

# The Acton Free Press.

Seventy-Eighth Year.—No. 43.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, APRIL 30th, 1953

Ten Home Print Pages Six Cents



193,810 PEANUTS made up the peanut day float that appeared on town streets Saturday under the auspices of Acton Rotary Club that continued the event despite heavy fog and intermittent rain. Rotarian president John Goy and secretary Ted Hansen are shown looking over the official peanut count with Peanut Queen Bette Johnson, who presided over the float during the day. The proceeds of the peanut day will be used by the Rotary Club for community projects.

## PEANUT MEN DANCE, SKIES WEEP; ACTON ROTARIANS RAISE OVER \$400

In spite of skies that wept all day and cold spring winds that made any shiver better, Peanut Day of Acton Rotary club had the spirit of "the show must go on" and the funds must be raised. Acton citizens and those from the district who were in Acton went into the spirit of "sink or swim" and while final results are not all in, it appears that Planter's Peanut Day in Acton netted the club between \$400 and \$500.

Acton Citizens' Band started things off with a parade of the streets and played some lively marches in front of the post office. Between showers the Planter's Company float, with the Peanut Queen and dancing peanut men, paraded and made headquarters at Mill and Willow St.

Even the product the Rotarians offered in their tag day did not suffer from the wet weather (thanks to waterproof containers). President Johnny Goy and fellow Rotarians carried on until nearly six o'clock and then as the weather became foggy, they called it a day.

Winner of the Force two-plate burner electric hotplate was Pat Patrick, with a guess of 198,000 peanuts on the float. Correct num-

ber of peanuts making up the display was 193,810.

The funds raised by Peanut Day will be used in the Rotary community service work aiding crippled children of Acton and district.

## Walker Lodge Has Ladies' Night

Ladies' night at Walker Lodge A. F. and A.M. provided a fine social gathering for Masons and their ladies of Acton and district. It was held in the parish hall on Friday evening. There were card games with prizes for winners. Entertainment was by Bob Redfern and Crawford Douglas and accordion solos by J. Candler.

The Rhythm Ramblers orchestra provided musical numbers and music for dancing. A delightful lunch was served and the event provided a fine time for members of the craft and their wives to meet socially. Bro. S. Snow headed the committee in charge.

The first Marconigram (wireless message) was sent from Canada to the United Kingdom in 1902.

## JOE CONNELL SPEAKER AT FOURTH ANNUAL FATHER, SON BANQUET

Joe Connell, secretary of Kitchener Y.M.C.A., brought a message that appealed to fathers and sons when he was guest speaker last Thursday at the fourth annual father and son banquet of Acton Y's Men's club. From his world experience and travels, he gave incidents that touched the hearts of everyone. He found a common level of interest from the boys and showed how fortunate they were to be in Canada and how appreciative they should be of their dads. He also talked to the dads of the understanding needed by the boys.

It has been our privilege to attend most of the father and son banquets in Acton and no message in all the years was finer than Joe Connell's last Thursday night. Chairman for the night was president John M. Greer and R. F.

Bean, chairman of the Y.M.C.A. Board extended the welcome of the Y.M.C.A.

Introduction of the head table was by Jack Creighton and the toast to the sons by Wes Wolfe and to the fathers by Peter Hurst. A singing song was led by G. L. Wilton of Kitchener with Crawford Douglas at the piano and Bob Redfern provided entertainment with Crawford as his accompanist. Thanks to the speaker was expressed by Gordon Oeder.

Of course all of this was preceded by a turkey dinner which had all a boy's appetite could desire and more than most fathers should have undertaken. It included a complete menu and was served by the Y's Men's Ladies' Auxiliary.



CHAMPIONSHIP DEBATERS in the Junior Farmer organization for the province of Ontario are Eleanor McKeown, Acton, and Earl Snow, Milton. The Halton Juniors successfully upheld the negative side of the resolution "that rural depopulation threatens the prosperity and welfare of Ontario." The Halton Juniors defeated the Lambton county entry at the Junior Farmer Conference at the O.A.C. on Monday of this week.

## Rotarians Donate \$25 to Majorettes

Acton Rotary Club made a donation of \$25 to the fund to provide uniforms for the majorettes of Acton Citizens' Band at its meeting Tuesday. The girls are making the uniforms but funds are required to purchase the materials.

Treasurer W. Woodburn reported that Easter Seal funds were still coming in and the fund had passed last year's net returns by over \$100. Peanut Day returns were not all in but estimates of the net proceeds were over \$400, which was considered satisfactory in view of the bad weather.

## Former Minister, Rev. Bennie Dies

Acton lost one of its well beloved citizens when the Rev. H. L. Bennie, M.A., passed to his rest at his home here, Thursday, April 23. After a long illness patiently borne, he was the minister of Knox Presbyterian Church from 1930 to 1942 and following his retirement in 1948, he came to Acton to live. Mr. Bennie was born in Galashiels, Scotland, on August 6, 1887. He studied in the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow, and graduated from Trinity College, Dublin, with the degree of Master of Arts. He was persuaded by his cousin, the late Professor R. Law of Knox College, Toronto, to come to Canada as a student missionary and he remained to graduate from Knox College.

## See Fashion Show At Friendly Circle

The Friendly Circle held its regular meeting on Wednesday, April 15, in the Sunday School room of the United Church. The president, Miss Jean Harris, was in charge. The report of the previous meeting was read by the secretary, Mrs. Bunny Stewart.

Final arrangements for the spring tea were completed and other business discussed. Mrs. Joan Wiley was presented with a gift from the circle as she is leaving Acton. The treasurer, Mrs. Helen Pickett, gave her report.

The meeting was turned over to Group III and a brief devotional period was conducted.

A fashion show, which was sponsored by this group, was the highlight of the evening. It was presented by Eisen's Clothing Store in Acton and those taking part were members of the Friendly Circle and some of their children. This pleasant evening came to a close with refreshments and Miss Jean Harris thanked the group.

## Six Vehicles, Three Accidents Saturday

A combination of three accidents on Saturday evening about 5:30 P.M. on No. 7 highway at the sixth line involved six vehicles. Injuries were not serious.

A pea-soup fog covering the area made driving treacherous. A Gray Coach bus driven by Leslie Vickers of R.R. 7, Guelph, was travelling east and turned out to pass a car. Noticing an approaching car driven by Robert Cutting, Guelph, the bus driver pulled in to miss a collision. Seeing the approaching bus the car driver swerved to the ditch and rolled over causing about \$500 worth of damage to the car. The vehicles did not collide.

Three cars following each other, driven by Leonard Drung, Acton, Louis Colombo, Willowdale, and Ross Britton, R.R. 4, Acton, collided with the rear of the preceding vehicle at the scene of the accident. Richard Davis, Lucan P.O. approached the scene suddenly, slammed on the brakes and skidded off the north side of the road, rolling over. Damage was estimated at \$300.

## Plans Near Completion To Call School Tenders

A letter from Barnett and Reider, architects to the North Halton High School Board at their regular meeting in Milton Monday stated that steady progress was being made on the detailed plans and specifications and within a week or so it was expected that these would be ready for the Board and tenders for building could be called.

A letter from the Ontario Hydro Commission acknowledged the Board's approval of bearing the cost of removal of poles from the school site in Acton at a cost of \$2,000.

## Set Annexation Hearing In June

The annexation hearing date has been set by the Ontario Municipal Board as June 8 in the Acton council chambers at 10:30 a.m. Notification of the date was received this week by town clerk J. McGeachie and official notices are being forwarded to property owners concerned.

The hearing is in connection with the town request for annexation of certain land now in Esqueping township and was made by the Acton Industrial committee of the council.

Arguments for and against the annexation of the lands will be heard by members of the Municipal Board at the hearing on the date set.

## MRS. H. MAINPRIZE ATTENDS CONFERENCE

Mrs. H. Mainprize of Acton, a member of the board of the Synodical Society of Toronto and Kingston, Women's Missionary Society of the Presbyterian church, is attending the three-day conference of the Society in Sudbury from April 28 to 30.

Mrs. C. W. McDonald, Islington, is presiding at the conference. The special speakers are Miss Dorothy Douglas, missionary on furlough from Formosa; Rev. F. C. Knox, India and Miss F. E. Matthews, executive secretary of the National Missions.

## FAMILY PROBLEMS NOT INCREASING AS POPULATION, MEETING TOLD

"While the population of our County is rapidly increasing, especially at the southern end, it would appear that to date our family problems are not increasing accordingly," Superintendent G. F. Thompson told the annual meeting of the Halton County Children's Aid Society in St. Paul's United Church, Milton, on Wednesday evening of this week.

"Many problems centre around young couples," the superintendent pointed out, emphasizing that the society aimed at giving the children a greater opportunity.

Mrs. W. A. Weaver, president, in her report pointed out that the Halton Children's Aid Society is the only channel by which the community can indicate its interest in the well-being of its children. In conclusion, Mrs. Weaver asked for the support of all organizations of the county "to aid in our work to help the neglected child of today become a better citizen of tomorrow."

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## Acton Six Entered In Hamilton Race

Acton Whippet club entries in the two and a half mile junior road race to be run at Hamilton on May 9 are Ed McHugh, Dave Cook, Bill McHugh, Bill Skilling, Bob Heatley and Wayne Arbie.

Six of 29 have entered the race but the number is expected to rise to 40 or more. Other entrants are from Hamilton, Toronto, Dundas, Galt University of Western Ontario, London and St. Francis Xavier school, Buffalo, New York.

Events are sponsored by the National Steel Car War Veterans Association.

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## MUSIC FOR DANCING STUDY GROUP TOPIC

Dances of different countries were studied by the Acton Music Study group, meeting Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Frank Heller. Mrs. A. Buchanan was in charge.

Mrs. E. F. Hards reported on current events in music and Mrs. J. Dills and Mrs. E. Bilton spoke on music for dancing. Mrs. C. Heard and Mrs. F. Heller played illustrations on the piano.

Lunch was served at the conclusion of the program.

## Hydro Men Replace Old Transformer

While on his rounds looking after the church furnaces Sunday morning, Richard Harris noticed smoke issuing from one of the hydro transformers and called to notify Guelph hydro office of the trouble. A number of hydro employees were out later to attend to the trouble. During the day, a new transformer was in place of the old one.

## Extend Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to Mr. (Rev.) H. L. Bennie and family in the passing away of Rev. H. L. Bennie last week. Rev. H. L. Bennie, while at Knox Church at Acton, was in charge of services in the Presbyterian church here at times.

## River Higher

As a result of heavy rains over the week-end, the river is slightly higher. The old building green is again under water in the park adjoining the highway.

Mr. Stewart S. Royce was out of town over the week-end.

## Signs of Spring

As the result of fine days last week, leaf buds on trees and shrubs about town are coming ahead. Mother Nature is always getting new apparel but in the same old style.

## HALTON DEBATERS ONT. CHAMPIONS AT JUNIOR FARMER CONFERENCE

Halton County Junior Farmer debaters, Eleanor McKeown, Acton, and Earl Snow, Milton, were declared Provincial Champions when they successfully upheld the negative side of the resolution at the annual Junior Farmer Conference in Guelph on Monday of this week, defeating Lambton representatives in the finals.

The debate was "Resolved that the rural depopulation threatens the prosperity and welfare of Ontario." Upholding the negative side, Halton representatives referred to the increase of production despite population decreases. They pointed out that farmers moving to jobs in industry had increased the tendency to move mechanized farming.

The opposing team referred to isolated cases where the population had left the land and conservation was very necessary.

Halton debaters on the road to the finals eliminated Wentworth, Haldimand, South Simcoe, Hastings and finally Lambton county representatives. Many of the debates were won on material backed by authoritative sources, one official commented.

Halton County Junior Farmers Choir led the music at the Sunday evening church service and afterward at the Fellowship Hour.

Representing Halton at the Conference were two from Milton and Brookville, three from Palermo and Acton and one from Norval. During Monday's opening session,

## HALTON DEBATERS ONT. CHAMPIONS AT JUNIOR FARMER CONFERENCE

David Pelletier, who has been president of the Junior Farmers of Ontario and Past President of Halton Juniors, gave his retiring address to the delegation. "We are living in a world of transition," he said. "The industry in which we are engaged, agriculture, is changing likewise." He told the junior farmers that their forefathers had been pioneers and had faced the future with "faith and optimism." "But the farmers of today are also pioneers in a changing world and should retain the same faith and optimism as their predecessors."

The retiring president sketched the progress of junior farmer organizations during the past 40 years and reviewed the accomplishments of the provincial association, which was formed only nine years ago.

"Our program has been one of education and leadership which will provide a strong background for farming and farm organization in the future," he pointed out.

## Tales on Tintypes, the New Free Press Historical Feature

"Tales on Tintypes," the new Free Press historical feature, makes its first appearance this week on page eight. Early Acton pictorially presented is the theme of the feature made possible by the photographs of Acton people and places by A. T. Brown at the turn of the century. Notes are written by G. A. Dills.



GRAHAM ROGER, a member of the Young Scottish Farmers and one of the delegates visiting Ontario is welcomed by County Past President Mac Sprowl with whom he stayed while seeing Halton county. From the county of Fife where with two brothers and his father he operates a 1200 acre farm, Graham reports Halton land in the north is very similar to the Scottish country.