

The Acton Free Press.

Seventy-Eighth Year.—No. 46.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, MAY 21st, 1953

Ten Home Print Pages—Six Cents

REACH SEWER CONTRACT SETTLEMENT



ROAD OIL BEING SPREAD on John St. in Acton ignited and spread along the block to the truck which burst into flames on Wednesday afternoon. Jim Mitchell, 17, of Toronto, was rushed to Guelph General Hospital where he was treated for arm burns received while staying on the truck to turn off the oil flow. Dense clouds of black smoke poured from the area and were visible for a mile. The flames knocked out street lighting services and singed trees in the area. The fire had more blaze, smoke and action in the shortest period of any conflagration we have ever witnessed.

Oiling Truck Afire Leaves Flame Trail

With the newly-oiled street behind it ablaze, K. J. Beamish's oiling truck burst into a sheet of flame Wednesday afternoon about 2:30. The truck was engaged in oiling John St. between Bower Ave. and Mill St. when fire of unknown origin swept the new oil and surged over the truck. The hastily summoned fire brigade rounded the Bower and John St. corner on the still flaming oil surface and had water on the truck within seconds. Firemen ventured close to the flames and black smoke to smother the fire apparently enveloping the large truck. The arms of the workman on the back of the truck were burned and he received immediate medical attention. He had been operating the valves on the back of the truck and remained on the truck to shut them off before jumping to safety. The young workman was 17 year old Jim Mitchell of Toronto, who was taken to Guelph General Hospital.

The driver of the truck and foreman Al Kirkness jumped from the cab. As the flames mushroomed, they sent smoke and sparks over the Victor B. Rumley funeral home, but no damage was done. Flames creeping up a hydro pole near the truck were doused by firemen. The insulation was burned off wires in the conduit for the underground street lighting, causing a short circuit. Foliage was scorched and trees burned. After the fire was completely extinguished—within a few minutes after the truck caught fire—the crowd gathered at a cautious distance was surprised to see one of the contractors drive the blackened truck away. Four of the heavy truck's tires were burned and damage was estimated at \$1,000.

Ladies' Auxiliary Of Club Honored

The Y's Men's Club entertained their wives and friends and the ladies of the Y's Men's Auxiliary and their husbands at a dinner at Hilltop Lodge on Thursday, May 14. The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Y's Men's club have contributed much towards the success of the local club in providing excellent dinners at their regular meetings and this dinner was an expression of appreciation by the Y's Men for their work. Gordon Odeur thanked the ladies for their fine co-operation during the past year and Mrs. Claude Cook, who with Mrs. Charles Kirkness, was convener last year, responded on behalf of their groups, saying that the ladies were glad to have assisted the Y's Men's club and wishing the club success in the coming year. Charles Kirkness, as fines master, ruled with an iron hand. A short meeting took place afterwards with John Greer, president, in the chair. After the dinner, an evening of dancing was enjoyed.

Linda Mann Guest W.M.S. Auxiliary

The Senior Auxiliary W.M.S. of Knox Church held its May meeting on Thursday, May 14, in the church when it had as its guest Miss Linda Mann, the winner of the essay contest held by the Daughters of Knox in the general contest among Junior Auxiliaries throughout the Presidency. All wished her success in the finals. For her splendid effort she was presented with a book—"The Silver Chalice" by the Senior auxiliary. The worship service was taken by Mrs. E. W. Smith and Mrs. E. McKnight and a short informal talk with a few readings was given by Miss Clark. Mrs. Manprize told how mite box money is used. One big item is the equipment for outfitting missionaries. As the supply secretary was ill, Mrs. Manprize and Mrs. Blow consented to act as assistants until the end of the year. The vocal solo of Miss Roszell and the instrumental by Mrs. Blow were enjoyed. Knowing the condition of affairs in British Guiana the president asked all members to remember with prayer its own missionary who is stationed there. A letter was read from Mrs. Black, president of Guelph Presbytery thanking the Auxiliary for the splendid rally in Acton. A motion expressing thanks to the local president, Mrs. Hassard, the soloist, Mrs. Davidson, for their part in making the rally such a success was placed on record.

Firm Accepts Claims Of \$700 On Sewer Laterals

Acton Council, at their regular meeting Monday evening, accepted the recommendation of the committee that the town pay to the Spartan Contracting Co. \$1,473 in final settlement of the sewer contract with the town, the balance of the \$2,173 held back being the coverage granted on claims presented by the town. Councillor E. Tyler reported on the meeting with representatives of the town and contractor in Toronto. Reviewing the case, it was pointed out that in February 1952 Spartan offered \$208 in settlement and the town asked \$309. Spartan agreed to the \$309 later but was not accepted. Bills for an additional \$800 incurred since February, 1953, were presented at the meeting recently and after considerable discussion, Spartan accepted \$400 of these and the original \$300.

It was pointed out that if the settlement had to be made through the court, it could cost the town at least \$1,000 and possibly more. Two writs were issued against the town by the contractor last year and legal proceedings were begun but delayed. The police committee was instructed to investigate costs and the possibility of securing a speed trap. Councillor Lindsay reported he understood a recent change in legislation allowed provincial police to operate these traps. Council approved recommendations of the committee regarding the settlement of Lot H. The committee had viewed the area and council adjourned to the site. It was reported a road of 50 foot width would be satisfactory and no jog would be necessary because of shifting the lot 10 feet west. A. Goodwin and A. Denny petitioned council to reduce the number of cars covered under one tax business license and provide some stipulation in the by-law limiting the number of cars on the basis of population. Mr. Goodwin suggested that we're operating under the law set up by council and if we're going to operate under these, we should have some protection on how many cars should be operated in town. It was pointed out by council that an amalgamation of the two firms would make the taxi business in town a "closed shop." Several expressed the opinion that council would not issue too many permits if the town was being satisfactorily serviced. Council passed a resolution that no changes be made in the present tax by-law. The deed conveying the park area in the Leishman survey to the town was presented, providing the town agrees to call the park the John R. Leishman park. Council accepted the deed and also the one foot reservation on the one side of the Wartime Housing subdivision as agreed at the last meeting. A multitude of complaints were voiced by councillors regarding the exploding of fireworks in town and asking enforcement of the by-law. Councillor Irwin reported one girl had been injured. Councillor Tyler said one had burned a man's suit coat and shirt when tossed at him. Councillor Lindsay reported a group driving in a car and throwing them from the windows at pedestrians on the street. A copy of a letter sent to Mrs. F. Jank by the Halton Health Unit granted permission to board children under three years of age with the number limited to four children at one time. The town agreed to supply two gallons of paint for the arena dressing rooms if the Lacrosse club wanted to paint them. Permission was granted to repair the band hall roof at the arena. A depression in the road on Mill St. in front of Baxter's Drug Store was reported and the road committee reported they were investigating repairs. Council decided to view the area when C. Bradley asked to purchase four feet from the park bordering his residence. He had agreed to pay all costs involved in the transaction. It was thought this would block the side entrance to the curling rink but this was to be investigated. The following accounts were approved:

Suspend Operation

Due to lack of interest and support the bowling green and tennis courts will suspend operations for this year, it was announced this week.

Acton Institute Has Social Meeting

Mrs. Earl Lambert was hostess to the Acton Women's Institute on Thursday afternoon for the annual social meeting. Mrs. R. L. Davidson presided and welcomed the members and visitors. The roll call was answered with a verse or quotation including the name, "Mother." A musical selection, "Mother Machree," was sung. The motto of the month, prepared by Mrs. Hamilton, "Wholesome homes are stepping stones to a great country," was read by Mrs. F. Anderson in the absence of Mrs. Hamilton, who was ill. The report of the district directors' meeting in Milton was given by Mrs. Lambert, announcing the district annual to be held in the United Church, Burlington. Transportation was to be arranged by the secretary for those wishing to attend. The plans for Coronation observance in Acton were reported, with members invited to take part in the parade and also to share in providing the lunch to be served the visiting bandmen. The members of the WI in the surrounding districts were welcomed to join the group in the parade. The meeting closed with singing. "The more we get together." A friendly game of cards was played and the usual period of social fellowship over the tea cups was enjoyed.

Watson Dairy Bar, lunch \$ 5.00
Highway Garage, acct. 773.92
MacSwain Motors, acct. 74.85
J. B. Mackenzie, mdse. 6.18
Highway Garage, fire brigade gas 1.17
L. Garner Motors, acct. 6.14
Acton Free Press, mdse. 21.58
Elliott Bros. mdse. 8.64
W. Coles, clerk's & bailiff's fees 8.00
Acton P.U.C., hydro acct. 407.45
Bell Telephone Co., serv Dept of Health, re Dunn & Rawlings 4.81
E. Tyler, mileage 10.00
\$267.05

Acton Places High At O.A.C. Play Day

Acton competitors at the Play Day at the O.A.C. in Guelph on Saturday tied for second place with 15 points. The winning team was from Walkerton and obtained 18 points. One of the Acton contestants, Paul Lawson, set a record in the high jump of five feet, four inches, placing first. He also came first in the pole vault, attaining a height of nine feet, six inches. Bill Coon placed second in the half mile race. Bob Coon was awarded a second in the hop, step and jump and a third in the high jump. Wayne Arbie placed third in the 220 yard dash, and Richard Mason was fourth in pole vault. The girls' volleyball team played Galt, losing the match. Tying with Acton for second place was Tavistock, also with 15 points. Schools were classed in groups by population, and students were entered in senior or intermediate classes. Competitors vied for points from about 20 Ontario high schools, including Collingwood, Galt, Guelph, Kitchener, Waterloo, Paris, Erin and Georgetown. Acton entrants in events were Janice Baker, Annamarie Spitzer, Wayne Arbie, Bill Coon, Bob Coon, Paul Lawson and Richard Mason. Members of the girls' volleyball team were B. Anderson, D. Dawkins, F. Garner, M. Jennings, J. McCrea, F. Oakes, J. Stuckey and J. Allan. Dinner was served in the O.A.C. cafeteria and many stayed for a dance in Memorial Hall in the evening.

3 Brigades Stage Relay Practice

Milton, Acton and Georgetown fire brigades held a mutual aid practice in Georgetown on Sunday morning. Almost half a mile of hose was used in pumping water from a creek along a road to demonstrate the relaying of water by hooking up the three trucks. About 25 firemen were involved in the practice. Another group practiced in the south of the county.

WELCOMING PARTY HELD AT EDEN MILLS

A welcome home party was held in Eden Mills Hall recently for S. Sgt. E. C. Ryder of Petawawa, who has returned home after a tour of duty in the Far East. Some 150 friends and relatives attended from Toronto, Hamilton, Waterloo, Brampton, Georgetown, Galt, Guelph, Hespeler, Acton, Arkell, and Eden Mills. Master of ceremonies Richard Starkey welcomed Earl home and a program of local talent was provided, which included a duet by Joan Coulson and Ruth Brinklow; a baton and tap dance number by Doreen Tolton; a piano selection by Mervin Tolton; several numbers by Richard and Jimmy Starkey, Bob Barnett and Alex Black; a piano duet by Mrs. Hume and Mrs. T. Hancock; a duet by Susan Miller and Doreen Tolton; and a mouth organ selection by Mervin Tolton. Andy Leachman and Bob Fitton, Ted Hancock thanked all those for taking part in the program. The remainder of the evening was spent in dancing. Music was provided by Mervin Tolton's orchestra. Don Nelson, as floor manager, gave out several prizes. A mystery was "Coronation Lady," who turned out to be Mrs. Anna Cruikshank. Refreshments were served by the ladies.

Father J. Corrigan Dies in Toronto

Father James Corrigan, who has frequently taken services at St. Joseph's church in Acton, died on Tuesday of a heart attack suffered at the Jesuit Seminary in Toronto. Born in 1914, Father Corrigan was educated at St. Stanislaus school and Guelph collegiate. He entered the Jesuit Novitiate in 1931, and taught for three years at Loyola college, Montreal. He completed his four years of the priesthood in 1944. He was procurator of the Jesuit seminary in Toronto and chaplain of the Catholic Women's Retreat Association. Surviving are his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Corrigan of Guelph, two brothers and two sisters.

New Y Secretary Dutch Executive

The appointment of D. H. Schmul, now the associate general secretary of the Y.M.C.A. in Amsterdam, Holland, as secretary of Acton Y.M.C.A. for next year, has been announced this week. Mr. Schmul, who will arrive in Acton early in September, has had wide experience in Y.M.C.A. work and sports activities. He is married and has three children. The family will be moving to Acton, and plan to make their home in Canada. Mr. Schmul has been on the Olympic games committee, has been president of the Dutch basketball federation and is active in youth hostel and church work in his native Holland. The chairman of Acton Y board of directors, Dick Bean, considers his qualifications "splendid." The prominent Dutch Y worker has been in Canada and the United States before and has lectured at Springfield college.

Former Merchant Dies in Hospital

John Allan Symon, who was born in Acton on April 2, 1867, passed away in Guelph General hospital on May 14. Mr. Symon, whose home was at 98 Main St., Acton, took a stroke in July of 1952. He was the son of the late Charles and Helen Symon. In 1901 he married Flora Stayton, who survives him. One daughter, Evelyn, predeceased him in 1935. One grandson also remains. There are no surviving brothers or sisters. Mr. and Mrs. Symon lived in Sault Ste. Marie for a number of years, where Mr. Symon was engaged in a hardware business until 1931. Then he had a furniture business in Kirkland Lake until he retired in 1938. Funeral service was held on Saturday, May 16 at the Victor B. Rumley funeral home. Interment was in Fairview cemetery, Acton. He: At poker I lose one night and win the next. She: Well, why don't you play every other night?

Meeting Considers Farm Organization

Many reasons for the existence of a Farmers' Union were discussed at a meeting on May 12 at Brookville Hall. Delegates from this Union were present as well as representatives from the Federation of Agriculture. The Federation's representatives overall contentions that this organization was doing a wonderful work were outlined. Mr. Willard Britton was chairman. Albert Comrack, Director of District 5 of the Farmers' Union expressed the discontent of all farmers. Depressed prices, no guarantee of fair returns for labor, indifference on the part of farm leaders and government, were placed in contrast with the protection that labor enjoys. Adequate wages, shorter hours, better working conditions, holidays with pay, were all essential to the industrial worker, while the farmer who has none of these and must take any price offered by the very firms whose employees took these things for granted. John Hutchinson, Farmers' Union member and president of the Junior Board pointed out that farmer in England knows what his income will be. He is able to hire labor and pay reasonable wages because he knows this. And there, too, the farm laborer has his hours of labor like the industrial worker. The aims of the Farmers' Union were outlined, among them being free legal advice and income tax consultation. Cecil Belyea, Federation of Agriculture fieldman for Ontario, outlined the accomplishments of his organization. The recent victory over the Vegetable Oils Institute was one of them. He pointed out it was won because of the gentlemanly approach of the leaders who reasonably put their views before the government in a common sense manner. A list of achievements including the Marketing Act, Co-operatives, County Medical Services, Hog Producers, Farm Forums and Rural Co-operator were named as evidence of the activities of the Federation. Mr. Belyea said he failed to hear anything constructive in the plans of the Farmers' Union. He assured the farmers of the good intentions and able services of the executives of the present federation. The third speaker for the Farmers' Union suggested that the Vegetable Oils Act was no protection for farmers. The fact that dairy products may not be mixed with vegetable oils does not prohibit a very much cheaper substitute being sold. Mr. Miller said the Farmers' Union would favour two prices for the products of the farm—one, having a reasonable profit for the grower which the home market could easily consume and a second and a lower one might be taken for surplus goods which would be for those starving peoples of the world who are not able to buy at high prices. Farmers who attended the meeting had much food for thought in the views of these two organizations.

SHOWER IN ACTON HONORS BRIDE-TO-BE

Miss Audrey Anderson, Toronto bride of next Saturday, was surprised Wednesday evening of last week when Acton friends held a miscellaneous shower at the home of Mrs. A. Long. Miss Anderson was the public health nurse in Acton for three years. Attending the shower with former friends of Miss Anderson's from Acton were Miss Lulu Warner, Toronto; Mrs. Jo Ann Ridler, Toronto; Mrs. Jo Omand of New Hamburg and Mrs. Donald Switzer of Hillsburgh. The bride-to-be has also been entertained at showers in Toronto where she now lives.



REPRESENTING ACTON HIGH SCHOOL in Guelph at the annual Play Day at the O.A.C. for schools in southern Ontario, Acton tied for second place in their class with the first place school edging them out by three points. Competitors shown in the back row are Paul Lawson, Bob Coon and E. Hansen who accompanied the team. In front are Bill Coon, Janice Baker, Wayne Arbie, Annamarie Spitzer and Richard Mason.



GOLD TROPHY WINNERS at the annual Y Parents' and Award Night held on Friday of last week were the young Acton people shown here. In the front, from the left, are Theresa Arbie, Ruth Landsborough, Y girl of the year, Faye Sagaski, Elaine DeForest. In the back row, Anne DeForest, Peter Lawson, Y boy of the year, Bob Whalman, Michael Hurst and Sandra Redfern in the third row. The display included gymnastic displays and was climaxed with the presentation of crests and silver and gold trophies.