

The Acton Free Press.

Seventy-Ninth Year - No. 41.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, APRIL 15th, 1954

Ten Home Print Pages—Six Cents

First Teacher Received \$300 a Year At Brand New Lorn School Back in 1882

"Lorne" or "Lorn"? That's the question since a letter was published last week in Free Press asking just why the spelling had changed. Although the inscription over the school itself reads "Lorn", a booklet was published in 1940 on the occasion of the first Old Boys' and Old Girls' Reunion. And how did the former students spell the name of their school? "Lorne".

The first schoolhouse, S.S. No. 12, Esqueping township, was completed in 1882, and was probably named for the Marquis of Lorne—yes, "Lorne"—who was the governor general of Canada at that time. It was in 1880 that rural residents began to think of a school for themselves a mile north of Acton. The Acton village school was expanding as it still is—and the tax burden seemed high to the district farming families.

The home of Alex Lasby was the setting for the first meeting on a new school, but whether a name was on the agenda or not isn't known.

Total Cost of School

On December 28, 1881, three trustees were duly elected, Alex Kennedy, Lachlan McMillan and Joseph Lasby. Donald Cameron was named auditor.

One acre was purchased from Charles Davidson for the site. The total cost of the school, land, survey, door, pickets, fence, fittings, furniture and well, was \$1,563.28. The building, of 32,000 bricks, cost \$388.

Just a year after the first meeting, on December 27, 1882, a meeting was held in the new school to plan for the human element—pupils and a teacher. Miss Anna Easterbrook was selected and awarded an annual salary of \$300. Among the first pupils in those early years was young Dan Johnston, who apparently liked school. He married Miss Easterbrook! And not likely for her money, at \$300 a year.

The first inspector was Mr. Deacon, later J. M. Doney, J. A. Partridge and L. Skuce.

We Have Spare "E's"

In 1882, records show that the busy caretaker received 16 cents a day for his duties at Lorne school. 1889 was a low year—the teacher's salary was down to \$205—and she had to act as janitor, too.

The present teacher at "Lorne" school (or "Lorn," as it seems to be now) has certainly something to add to the debate—she's Mrs. Lorne Simpson.

Lorne school is presently administered by a school area board. Local board members are R. L. Davidson and W. Dobie. Secretary is Miss Ruth Evans of Georgetown.

Perhaps the raterappers of the school section could hold a plebiscite and give a decision of whether the school should be known as Lorne or Lorn. We have plenty of letter "e's" and will be glad to put on the missing letter which was just recently deleted.

Children Conduct Mission Band Meet

Youngsters conducted the meeting and supplied the program when the United Church Mission Band held its Thanksgiving meeting on Friday evening in the church. About 50 parents and friends attended with 30 children taking part.

Leading the Mission Band members in their special evening were Mrs. A. Mercer, Mrs. M. Symon, Mrs. R. Bean and Mrs. W. Waterhouse.

About 30 children marched in with lighted candles, singing "Jesus Bids Us Shine." Peter Wolfe gave a recitation and then David Smith, the president, an address of welcome. Nine youngsters presented a skit called "Family Gathering" representing children of other lands. The Mission Band hymns were sung and all repeated the Mission Band prayer.

Katherine Garret read the scriptures and Ray and Reg Deak gave a reading. After a hymn, "God Sees the Little Sparrows," Father Curran Woodburn led in prayer.

The offering was taken by the ladies: Tommy McKinnon, Donna Little, Bob Smith and Randa Holmes. Ricky Lyons gave a reading and the small group sang "Jesus Bids Us Shine." Easter songs were given by Sandra Brown, Janice Woodburn, Barbara Symon and Mary Beth Elliott.

A prayer by Norma Cameron followed.

Miss M. Z. Bennett presided at the guest speaker, Miss B. Hills, the W.M.S. secretary of the Presbytery. After Miss Hills' talk, she was thanked by Norman Elliott.

General Meeting of Acton Soccer Club

General meeting of the Acton Soccer Club scheduled for the week in the Legion hall has been postponed until next week when it is expected further contacts with potential players from town and district will be complete.

Scheduled to play its first game in competition in May, the club is entered in the nine-team Southern Ontario Soccer League. Second division Club boosters anticipate a drawing force of 20 to 25 players from town and district to man the Acton team.

Knox Girls' Meet Has Easter Theme

Mrs. A. Ellerby opened her home on R.R. 4, Acton, for the regular meeting of the Daughters of Knox Monday evening, April 12. The first vice-president, Norma Wilds, was in charge, with about 20 present.

"Easter" was the theme of the meeting. The devotional service consisted of verses from the Bible on the Easter story, read by Margaret Toth, Elizabeth Jany and Betty Green. June Watkins read the story of the cross tree, as a symbol of the cross.

Prints of famous paintings of Passion Week were shown by Mrs. A. Buchanan as she spoke to the group on the meaning of Easter.

A contest, "20 Questions" was given. Mrs. P. Bennie distributed work to the girls. Baby jackets are to be made for a bale for Korean children in Japan.

Plans were made for the Daffodil tea to be held next week at Miss Ruby Clark's home. Plans were also discussed for a graduation service at the May meeting.

Anglican Churches Mark Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday was observed in St. Alban's church in the traditional manner. The 9 a.m. Communion Service was a corporate communion service for young people and was followed by breakfast in the parish hall.

It being the second Sunday in the month, the 11 a.m. service was at St. John's church, Rockwood, where there was a good congregation for Palm Sunday.

At this service and at the evening service in Acton, small Palm Crosses were distributed to those who wished to remember Palm Sunday and the events of the day with something tangible.

Holy Week will be observed in St. Alban's with daily services in Matins and Evensong and special services on Monday, Thursday and Good Friday. Easter Day will also be marked with the usual festival services and with special music.

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Speedy Turn-Out

When the school bell rings most youthful inhabitants lose little time getting out, but Wednesday morning must have seen a new record set for speed for general exodus at Acton's public and high schools.

Fire chief Sam Tennant, with six brigade members, pulled a surprise fire drill and it took only 69 seconds for 525 public school pupils to completely vacate the building. Their older colleagues, 125 high school students, required only 51 seconds to empty the building.

According to Fire chief Tennant, these times are "very good."

Elect G. Candler H. and S. President

The Acton Home and School Association held its last meeting of the season in the public school auditorium Monday, April 12 with 70 members present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted, and the treasurer's report given. Following a short business session, during which a report was made on the theatre night, president J. W. Wolfe thanked the retiring executive for his fine work during the past season.

The Nominating Committee presented its slate of officers for the coming school year and this was accepted by the members present. R. Parker conducted the ceremony of installation of the new officers.

These are president, G. Candler; 1st vice president, J. W. Wolfe; 2nd vice president, C. Taylor; secretary, Mrs. S. Esen; treasurer, C. Landsborough.

Committee—Mrs. G. Barbeau, Mrs. R. Bean, Mrs. C. Leatherland, Mrs. R. Parker, W. Mallocks, H. Freuler, E. Husman, School representative, R. McKewen.

The evening's program consisted of two violin selections by Miss Sheila Paul, accompanied by Ted Hansen and humorous readings by Mrs. M. Ballentine.

The speaker of the evening was Ron Standen, Recreational Director for the town of Mimico, who gave a very interesting talk on his work in sports and other types of recreation with children and adults. Mr. Standen was introduced by G. Candler, and thanked by R. Parker.

A social half hour was spent with lunch served by the male members of the executive.

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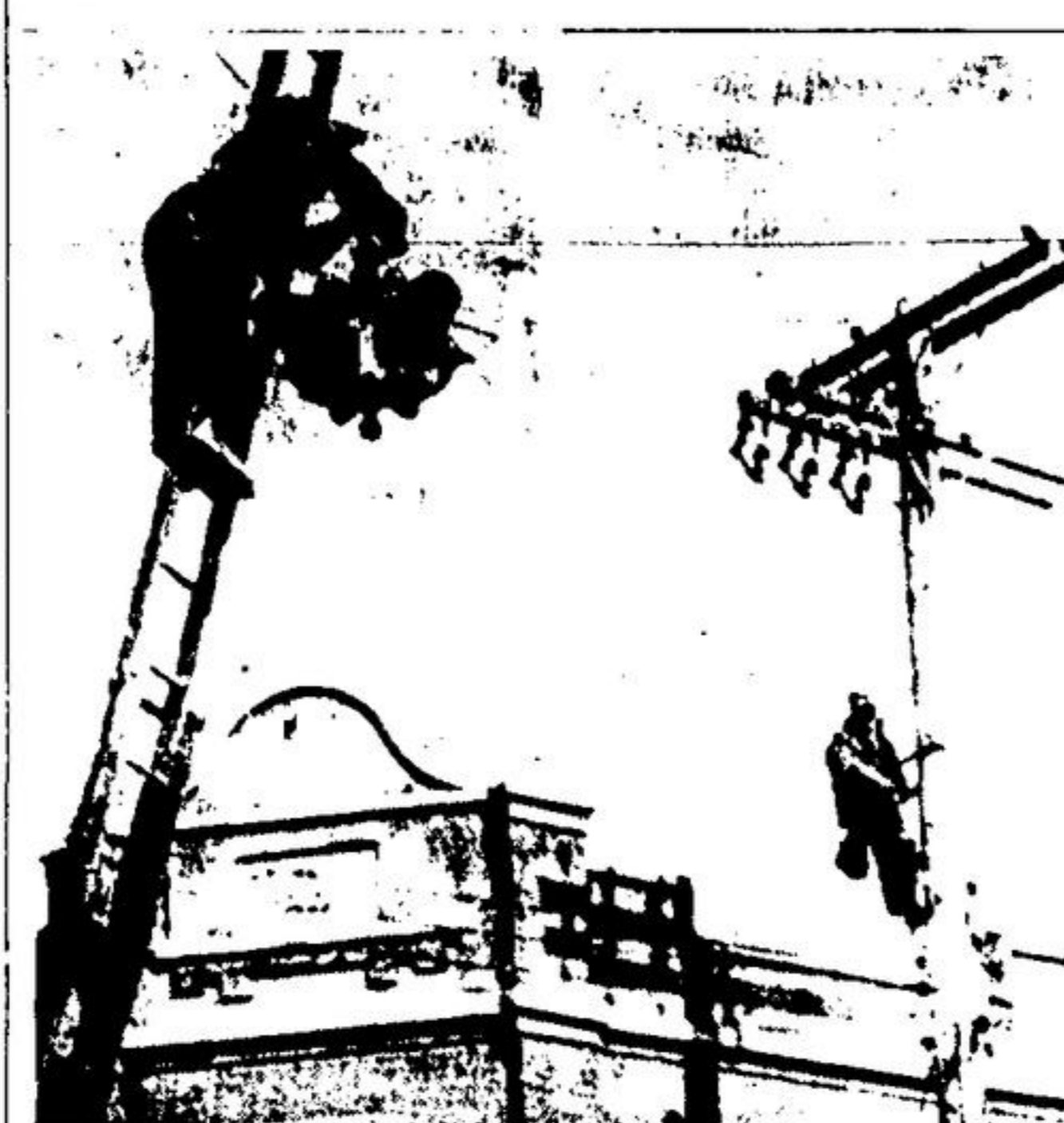
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County Rate Is Down; Acton Contribution Set at \$13,374



ACTON'S FIRST FLASHER light is installed at the corner of Mill and Main streets. The 50-pound signal, flashing red three ways and amber toward Mill east, is held by a single guy wire and controlled from a motor box on a south-east corner pole. On the ladder is Wayne Kelly while Kerwin McPhail grips the telephone pole.

Quilts on Agenda Of United W.A.

The Women's Association of the United Church met at the home of Mrs. D. Lindsay on Tuesday. Presiding was Mrs. H. Burns, the president. Devotional was taken by Miss M. Z. Bennett and the 1954 call was answered by the w. e. l. e.

A duet was sung by Mrs. W. Sterritt and Mrs. C. Parker accompanied by Mrs. Fatt.

Cards are to be sent to sick and shut-ins at Easter. Deepest sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. E. Jennings through the removal by death of both their mothers.

Several quilts are being quilted and the ladies are quite busy again.

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Good Friday

The office of this newspaper will be closed tomorrow—Good Friday—and remain closed Saturday in order that the staff may enjoy the long week-end.

Sewing for Bazaar Handed in at Guild

The regular meeting of St. Alban's Guild was held in the Parish Hall, April 7 after the Wednesday evening Lenten service. 32 members were present and the president, Mrs. C. Cook, was in charge of the meeting. The secretary and treasurer gave their reports.

The spring bazaar was discussed and a considerable amount of sewing was handed in for this event.

The meeting closed with the Mazah benediction, after which a delicious lunch was served.

Young People's Play is Staged at Halton Manor

"Indian Friendship" Acton Baptist church Young People's entry in the Guelph Association drama festival, was presented at Halton Centennial Manor on Tuesday evening. Other engagements are also planned for the group.

Several friends travelled with the cast to Milton when the play was performed in the dining hall of the Manor. Mrs. R. Costerus introduced the program to a good audience.

Mrs. L. Garner read the Easter story from the Bible; Charles Landsborough played a cornet solo and the girls' trio, Helen Landsborough, Faye Garner and Mary Reid sang.

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Acton taxpayers will be asked to contribute a total of \$13,374.20 to Halton county according to the mill rate set for county purposes of 5.3 mills—a decrease from last year's rate of 5.75. The rate was set Tuesday at the regular meeting of county council. The general rate was set this year at three mills with the road levy at 2.3 mills to raise a total of \$340,132.67 over the entire county.

Largest contributor to the county coffers is Trafalgar township paying a total of \$73,591.08, followed by Oakville paying \$62,730.07.

The following is the complete table of equalized assessment in the various municipalities and the amount to be paid to the county.

Equalized Assessment	Total
Acton	\$2,523,434 \$13,374.20
Brimley	1,040,825 5,516.37
Burlington	10,512,404 55,715.74
Georgetown	4,065,180 21,545.45
Milton	2,580,040 13,710.25
Oakville	11,935,063 62,730.07
Esqueping	5,035,700 20,869.25
Nassagaweya	2,104,892 11,579.93
Nelson	11,037,602 58,409.72
Trafalgar	13,065,224 73,591.08

\$85,300,052 \$346,132.67

Grants approved in the finance committee report, submitted by Reeve Emmerson Ford, were, Canadian National Institute for the Blind Building, \$1750, regular \$350, Salvation Army \$700, Music Festival \$100, Lorne Scouts regiment \$500, band \$500 for a total in grants of \$3,000.

Debentures falling due in 1967 were to be recalled and paid off with the money remaining in the Centennial Manor building account.

Deputy Reeve Marshall, Trafalgar, suggested the county should undertake some contribution to the Halton Police Association appeal for funds to plant trees at Halton Centennial Manor.