

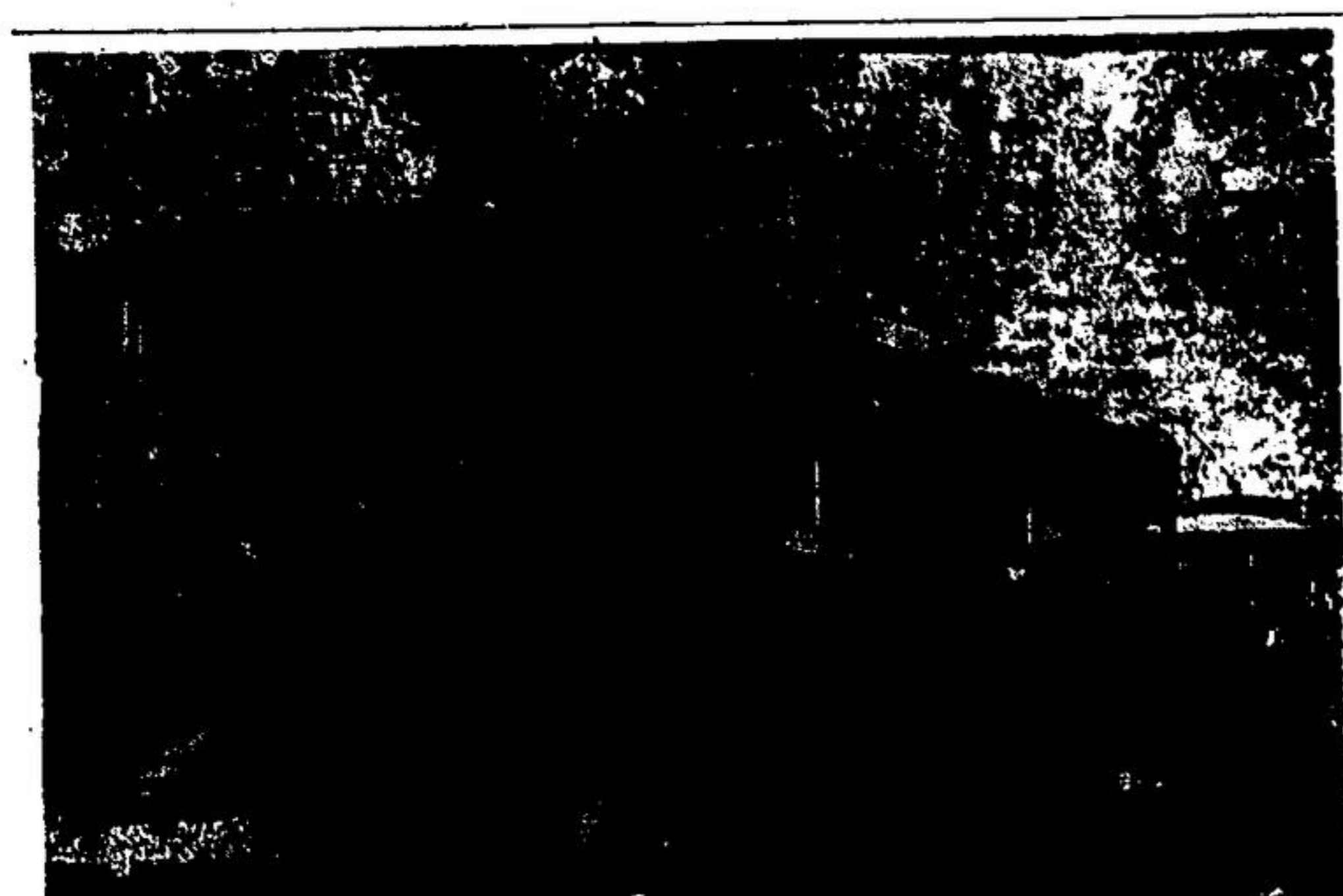
The Acton Free Press.

Eightieth Year.—No. 3.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, JULY 15th, 1954

Eight Pages Six Cents

EXPRESSWAY MAY START THIS YEAR



MYSTERIOUS STREETCARS in Nassagaweya township turned out to be two forerunners of a collection of historical rail car vehicles. Here the retired tram twosome, in their heyday when the Kaiser capitulated, laze in the shade of their woody resting place. Side windows were removable in the summer so passengers could sniff fresh air more freely. In winter a pot-bellied stove warmed them.

Case of the Curious Cars

Two Trams Trekged to Township

In a woody grove of Nassagaweya township, where birds, bugs and bullfrogs vocalize with gusto, there may some day be heard a new note: the whine-rattle-rattle of street cars—believe it or not.

If, as and when that happens, don't count on a tram ride from here to Crewson's-to-Eden Mills-to-Campbellville or points between. Not quite. These cars are only for show and their romping range will be less than a mile.

Five miles west of here, off Nassagaweya's fourth line, a section of the former Toronto Suburban Railway Co. rail banking now bears the weight of some 75 yards of track—whereupon rest two sedate street cars of World War I vintage.

How and why these two retired public vehicles came to be there, in the middle of the bush practically, posed a bit of mystery to nearby farmers.

Last year this newspaper caught the curiosity bug and after collecting enough answers to questions learned the explanation.

Four young men from Toronto, interested in setting up a museum of historical rail car vehicles, recently purchased a strip of nearly four acres—66 feet by 4094 feet—from the township.

This particular strip once belonged to the Toronto Suburban Railway Co. After the old Guelph-Toronto line was abandoned in 1931, this area was the only one which did not eventually revert or sell to private owners.

Last year the enthusiastic quartet approached the township about the strip, outlined their intention to set up, maintain and eventually operate a few showpieces of early streetcar equipment, and made arrangements to buy the property.

This year the transaction was completed. Last month trucks burdened with the venerable streetcars took them out to pasture. Rumor has it that before too long the two trams will be joined by more antiquated kin.

While one sign at the site reads:

NASSAGAWEYA JUNCTION

the other sign near the roadway proclaims "Private Property, Keep Out." This tends to suggest the notion that it'll be awhile yet before curious citizenry can take in at close range the sights of Nassagaweya's mysterious streetcars.

Short Business Schedule Faces P.U.C. in Hour-Long Session

Acton Public Utilities Commission sailed through a short schedule of business in an equally short time last week when members met for regular session in the town office.

Following the minutes, Mayor E. Tyler reported street light recommendations made had been approved by the council.

Two motions, ratifying decisions on wage adjustments for administration staff employees reached at the recent joint meeting of Commission and Council, were passed. One granted a \$1.50 per week wage increase to Mrs. B. Urquhart and the other endorsed the decision that no increase be granted J. McGeechie.

Members approved payment in full to MacSwain Motors for the bid price of \$2561.50 for truck chassis delivered to Smith Bros. Bodies. This is the chassis for the new truck to be provided the Hydro department.

Further information is to be sought members agreed after an unsuccessful attempt was made to set the amount of pay due A. Duby for week-end duty with the waterworks department. Mr. Duby is presently employed weekdays by the town as inspector on the Warren Grove sewer extension installations.

Decline \$10 Dinner

Commission members declined an invitation, sent by the Ontario Municipal Electrical Association to attend a \$10-per-plate testimonial dinner for Ontario Hydro chairman Robert H. Saunders.

In a letter from the Ontario Hydro it was revealed that November 10 is now the date of commencement for cycle conversion operations here. One member remarked that is the fourth time the date has been moved ahead.

An offer from Imperial Oil to supply oil by contract to the Commission was turned down.

Waterworks superintendent J. Lambert reported 16 services, both water and sewerage, installed to lots. Nine of these lots have buildings in some stage of construction. He added, He also noted the wading pool water supply hooked up and remarked that at present the town's water is in good supply.

Commission accounts were passed as follows:

Hydro Department	
Petty Cash	3.91
H. Palmer, Office cleaning	20.00
Highway Garage	10.75
Acton Free Press	5.94
Gestner Ltd.	2.95
Town of Acton, Charges re debenture issue	157.00
H. G. Barkow, Stamp	3.90
Masco Electric	56
James R. Keaneley	90.73
Burroughs Ltd., Machine	3860.10
H.E.P.C. of Ont., Interest	53.75
Whitman's Garage	13.42
	\$4,223.01

Waterworks Department	
Anderson Welding	6.25
Highway Garage	1.25
Lincoln Electric Fan	6.00
Bilton and Perry	1.75
Canadian Brass Co.	317.95
People's Fuel, Pipe	376.36
	\$710.16

Wellington County Marks Centennial

Congratulations are in order this week to Halton's neighboring county, Wellington, which is celebrating its 100th birthday.

Tomorrow and Saturday in Fergus celebrations are in order to mark the centennial in style. Highlight of the Friday program will be the opening of a Wellington County Museum in Elera during the afternoon.

Friday night and Saturday contestants will vie for beauty titles. Feature of Saturday will be a parade with floats representing all 12 townships and nine towns and villages.

Paper Holiday

Annual holiday for this newspaper will be the week of July 25 to August 3. Both office and plant will be closed during this period and there will be no publication of the paper on Thursday, July 29.

Next week, and the week following the holidays, publication schedule will be normal. However, advertisers and correspondents are urged to keep in mind there will be no paper two weeks from today.

Nine Trucks Race To Fire Practice Call

A total of nine fire trucks and over 50 firemen with hundreds of feet of hose converged on Milton Wednesday night of this week for a Mutual Aid practice that had water flowing from three sources through seven hose lines.

The seven hose lines converged at the creek on Main St. and while traffic was not delayed passing motorists, besides the questioning glances, got only the basis of a good car wash.

One series of hose had its source at Martin's Pond on Martin St. where the Milton district truck took water, passing it to the Acton pumper at the post office, which relayed it to Georgetown, just beside Chisholm's Garage.

A second series of hose had its origin from the second Milton truck at the stream at Oak St. running up Commercial St. to the Trafalgar truck, which passed it to the Nelson Township truck on Main St. by the Frigid Lockers.

The third series of hose had its origin on the east side of the stream at Oak St. with Burlington taking water from the stream, passing it to Oakville on Fulton St. and on to the Burlington Beach truck at Main St. by Johnson's Garage.

The general alarm was sounded shortly before seven o'clock and brigades from the neighboring municipalities began arriving minutes later. Water was flowing to the imaginary fire much faster than at former practices when all trucks were hooked up in one series for distance pumping.

Mercury Steals Up To Summer Simmer

Misgivings that July was slow to serve its usual summer heat evaporated this week when the mercury, after slouching for two weeks in the indifferent low 70's, stole upward into the high 80's.

By mid-week the temperature levelled at a summer simmer, and were it not for day-long breezes, complaints about the heat would be more emphatic.

Night air has rested at a comfortable sleeping temperature, but the weatherman is hesitant to say how long this will last.

Assure Completion Of H.S. by Aug. 15

Assurance has been given members of the North Halton High School District Board that the school in Acton will be completed by August 15 as far as building, painting, etc. This will allow 21 days for placing furniture and drapes and the other arrangements necessary before school opening on September 7.

In conversation with Acton members of the board, Jack Gordon gave the assurance that the shop would be ready for moving in and placing of equipment on August 6 and the painting at the school would be completed by August 10. This will allow for completion by August 15 after which delivery of new furniture has been arranged.

Principal E. A. Hansen plans to have the library and other rooms in order during this period. Caretaker Rudolph Spivovogal commences his duties at the new school the first of August to be on hand for arrival of new equipment and get the new school ready for September opening.

In the meantime, contractors have made arrangements and practically all of the equipment from the old high school building has been stored in the new building. Floors in the old building are being sanded and the rooms made ready for use by the public school.

Acquisition of this property gave five additional classrooms for public school purposes.

Nine Piano Pupils Pass Music Exams

Nine from Acton were successful in passing piano examinations. Royal Conservatory of Music of Toronto in Guelph. They are, grade ten honors, Mrs. Edith Heller, grade eight, honors, Christina Lamb, grade seven, honors, Delmar Watson; grade five, honors, Margaret Armstrong; pass, Bob Armstrong; grade four, piano, honors, Ruth Landsborough; grade two, honors, Peter Wolfe, Susan Heard; grade one, pass, Barbara Norton.

Junior Pool Opens After Drain Repairs

With its drainage system newly repaired, the junior pool in Acton park opened its gates to Acton's youngest swimmers Monday of this week. Mr. and Mrs. Dick Schull are supervising the splashing in this junior-sized swimming pool.

A cool oasis during the hot summer vacation months, the pool will be open seven days a week from 2:30 until 5 in the afternoon. No fee has been set yet.

The pool is felt to be the most suitable for youngsters under eight years of age.

The pool was opened last summer, providing a safe, supervised swimming spot for local children. Mr. Schull is the Y secretary here and his wife was noted as a swimmer and diver in Holland.

Sewer Line Snakes North on Wallace

Wallace Street, scooped up and scattered in large piles of earth and stone is the locale of much activity this week as the trunk sewer line which will connect installations in Warren Grove snakes its way northward behind the going power shovel.

Progress by the contractors since early this week has been swift. After trunk line last week, men and equipment moved quickly and efficiently to lay ahead the 13 foot sewerage conduit sections.

Water has been encountered in varying quantities at the trunk depth level. However where most moisture was expected proved the driest. As the shovel and installation crews approached the Wallace St. creek bed, water disappeared and laying pipe under the concrete bridge passage, little trouble was experienced.

Meanwhile, Warren Grove residents find themselves without an entry way for cars. According to the progress and position of the power shovel, makeshift passageways come and go for vehicles able to take the humps and bumps. Most residents have been parking their cars in the large field adjoining Wallace Street.

New Four-Lane Access Highway To Cut Between Acton and Milton

Construction on the new four-lane controlled access highway, that will cut Halton and No. 25 highway between Milton and Acton, is expected to be started this year. The section on which construction is anticipated is west from Toronto to Galt and Kitchener.

This will be another section of the Trans-Quebec Expressway which eventually will stretch from Windsor to the Quebec border, linking Windsor and all points west to Montreal.

At the Windsor end 24 miles of grading is now practically completed. Another section is under construction north of St. Thomas between London and Woodstock.

While present indications point to the road bisecting No. 25 highway with a cloverleaf just north of Milton, the Highways department contacted this week, would not confirm the route through Halton county as being definite.

The expressway is the top highway job in the province and is expected to be completed within the next 10 years.

By the time it is completed the expressway is expected to cost \$300,000,000. The highway will be referred to as 401. Like other sections of the highway now in use and under construction in various parts of the province the new throughfare will have 23 foot roadways, separated by wide grass strips depressed toward the centre. The new road will contain all the engineering features necessary to make it a "safe" expressway.

Beavers, Flooding Water County Council Problems

Flooding water and beaver problems were again aired at the regular meeting of Halton County Council held at Milton Tuesday afternoon. Reeve A. R. Service of Nassagaweya complained that he had been unable to have a meeting called of the Conservation Committee and the Re-forestation Committee to discuss the flooding condition on the town line between Nassagaweya and Esquing townships.

Reeve Geo. Brenholz, Nelson, informed council he was ready to call a committee meeting to discuss the matter at the earliest possible time.

Reeve Service also informed council he felt it was a question of raising the road or removing the beaver. He indicated he did not wish to see the beaver removed as they were doing an excellent job of conserving water in that portion of the county.

Questions Height

However, he said, his and Esquing council could not afford to bear the expense of raising about 1,000 feet of road. Reeve Wilfred Bird, Esquing, said the Department of Highways was prepared to pay their share of the cost of improving the roadway.

The Burlington member, Reeve R. H. Shannon, questioned whether the beaver were to blame. He said the road was always under water at some time of the year, and after an inspection with the Game Warden found the road to be much higher than the 16-inch beaver-dam.

It was suggested by Reeve William Anderson, Oakville, proper levels should be taken by the engineer. "The question seems to be water levels," he said.

Council agreed a meeting should be called and the problem viewed from all angles, so a recommendation and report could be tabled at the September meeting.

New Appointment For Rev. R. Price

Rev. Ralph E. Price, rector of St. Alban's church, Acton and St. John's church, Rockwood, has accepted the appointment as rector of the parish of Fonthill and Port Robinson. The appointment is effective September 15.

He came to Acton as rector in May, 1952, and has since made many friends among those of all religious denominations in the town and district. He came to Acton from Guelph.

No appointment for the Acton and Rockwood Anglican churches has been made as yet. On Wednesday evening, a committee went to Hamilton to see Bishop Baghill about a new rector. The committee consisted of wardens William Deeny and Cliff Sutton of Acton and John Lloyd and Lorne Linford of Rockwood; lay delegates Les Duby and Henry Jolly of Acton and Charles Stovel of Rockwood. Since Henry Jolly was unable to go, substitute Kenneth Knox went in his place.

Two Teams Revive Men's Softball Here

Teams representing Warren Grove and the Dominion Hotel made the first attempt to revive men's softball in Acton Wednesday night. The Dominion routed Warren Grove 13-7 over the seven innings.

Drysdale pitched for the winners while Bus Morton handled the hurling for the losers. The Grove came from behind to grab a 7-4 lead in the third but Dominion put their heads together and ran up a steady lead after the fourth frame while the Grove boys failed to notch a run after a five run outburst in the third.

"Fuzzy" Mellon coached the Dominion team while Frank Holmes put the Grove through their paces. Hank Eagle and Iec Lambert handled the umpiring duties with Lambert behind the plate.

Warren Grove: I. Masters, Morton, Jordan, Andrews, James, Irwin, Couture, D. Jordan, Holmes, Chapman, Allen, F. Holmes, manager.

Dominion Hotel: Woods, Drysdale, V. Masters, Townsley, Snyder, Taylor, Landsay, Heatley, Lesueur, Jordan, Bennett, Masales, Basil Mellon, manager.

Annual Grants

Council approved the usual grant of \$200 to be made to both the Acton and Esquing fall fair societies.

Members gave their assent to a resolution sponsored by Reeve Emerson Ford and Deputy Reeve Robert Marshall, Trafalgar, requesting the Department of Highways to have a traffic stop-light installed at the intersection of the Seventh Line and Highway 25. Mr. Ford explained it was a very dangerous intersection, which had experienced a number of accidents.

Roy Smith introduced E. F. Marston to members. The visitor is the newly appointed district engineer for the Ontario Department of Highways.

Watch Finances

During the reading of reports and the approval of various expenditures, Deputy Reeve E. R. Leather, Nelson, urged council to watch their expenditures for the year. He said he noticed a considerable increase in the various departments over those of a year ago. Reeve Ford, chairman of the finance committee, said a report of current expenditures would be presented at the next meeting.

Congratulations were in order, Reeve George Brenholz said and they were directed to the members of the Road Committee for their prompt action in having the Guelph Line from Mount Nemo to Highway 5 repaired. The condition of this road was discussed at the last meeting and in a few days the condition was vastly improved, and now it is in excellent condition. I must congratulate them. However, I would suggest they give consideration to the two very narrow bridges located there. They are dangerous and two vehicles cannot pass," he said.

Eight Baptized Sunday at Knox

The quarterly Baptismal Service was held at morning worship last Sunday at Knox church and the following babies were baptized: Heather, Elizabeth, Gary, Lorne, Masters, Steven, John, Miller, Heather, Ruth, Wark, V. Wark, Lorne, Hoover, Barbara, Evelyn, and Brenda, Margaret, McNabb, and George Douglas, McPhail.

A silver bowl to hold the baptismal font was presented in memory of Mrs. Nellie Barber Skuppen the gift of her sister, Mrs. Jean Barber.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, sponsored by the Acton Ministerial Association, totalled a record-breaking registration of 173 on its last day. The children are pictured here at Knox church for the last class. Parents' night was held Friday evening when over 150 diplomas were presented to the youngsters who attended four or more sessions. The sixth annual Bible school proved highly successful last week with the numbers attending more than double that of the five previous schools. Rev. R. H. Armstrong, Rev. R. E. Price, Rev. E. A. Currey and Pastor R. Costerus were in charge with the help of 14 ladies. The group was divided into three classes, kindergarten, primary and junior, including tots just two to young people in their teens.

