

Weighty Edition of Free Press Carries A Ton of Material

From time to time we have visitors to the Free Press office who are interested in seeing the production of a newspaper and commercial printing. Always they have expressed surprise at the involved processes and machines employed in making the finished products. Perhaps readers will be interested in some information regarding this week's special Christmas shopping issue of the Free Press. With its 18 pages it is actually two weeks' papers in one issue!

It is the largest issue of the Free Press ever published, with the exception of the special issue published in connection with our 75th anniversary. The metal used in its production weighed over 1600 lbs. It required 3825 sheets of newsprint weighing 225 lbs. and some 15 pounds of ink. Almost a ton of material!

About 150 Ads

There are approximately 150 advertisements running from the classified items, coming events, up to full page advertisements.

The advertisements contain almost 100 illustrations which had to be cast out of metal and cut to size on a special saw. Many of the advertisements as well had to be cast and trimmed to proper column size as well as the front page illustrations of the special issue.

There are over 60 local news articles as well as the special Christmas articles and regular features such as editorial, Ginger Farm Chronicles, twenty and fifty years ago, historical feature, etc.

The average line of news item contains six words. All of these are individually assembled. We haven't figured out yet how many hours in regular and overtime were used in its production. It is possible there may be an error or two in its 18 pages which we trust you may understand!

Study Group Hears Music on Records

A pleasant evening was spent by members of the Music Study Group when, for the main part of the program, they heard Tchaikovsky's Concerto in B Flat and Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 in C Minor. The group met Monday evening at the home of Mrs. J. Graham.

The president, Mrs. R. Arnold, presided for the business meeting which followed. The report of the nominating committee indicated the following slate of officers for next year: past president, Mrs. M. McCullough; president, Mrs. R. Arnold; first vice-president, Mrs. C. Heller; second vice-president, Mrs. B. Veldhuis; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. David Dills; councillors, Mrs. A. J. Buchanan, Mrs. W. J. Beatty and Mrs. J. Jany.

H. Deveau Takes Lease on Theatre

The Roxy theatre in Acton has been taken over on a long-term lease by the present manager, Henry Deveau. Mr. Deveau, who came to Acton as manager of the theatre for the National Theatre Services Ltd. chain, will now make his home here permanently. At the end of the term of the lease, he hopes to own the business and equipment.

Since his residence here, Mr. Deveau has married the former Miss Anne Dunn of Acton. Actonians will be glad to learn that Mr. Deveau will remain at the theatre here to continue his excellent management that those in the town and district have enjoyed the past few years.

He has unfailingly tried to bring the best in entertainment to the town. "We'll certainly try to keep up the flow of good pictures Acton has been fortunate in getting up till now," he said this week. Already his plans include redecorating the theatre.

Mr. Deveau has had 14 years of experience as assistant manager and manager of theatres in Halifax, Sydney, Glace Bay and Moncton, New Brunswick. He was a manager with Famous Players for five years and assistant manager with Odeon Theatres for five years. He came to Acton succeeding Al Allen four years ago last month. His consistent service since that time has been appreciated and Actonians will wish him every success in his venture in private management.

Planning a series of top-flight entertainment here, including the special features for which Mr. Deveau has become noted, he mentioned this week that not as many moving pictures are available as there used to be. This, he explains, is due to the fact that better pictures are being made, that take more time. There are fewer low-grade pictures being shown. He also expects to include reissues of most successful films.

Modernize Offices At Blow Press Ltd.

Increased convenience, modernization and attractiveness are evident in the new offices at Blow Press Ltd. The previous office space has been doubled, taking in the entire front section of the plant on Bower Ave. Replacing the door on the side of the plant is a new door in the centre of the building at the front. Beneath a wood canopy, the door will be flanked by glass brick panels when the work is completed. The plant's name will be displayed in smart aluminum.

The stock room and a hall have been moved to make room for the alterations, which include a general office, private office and drafting room. Color scheme is green and coral with wood paneling. The ceilings are of acoustic tile and new fluorescent lighting has been installed.

The improvements began about a month ago, with J. B. Mackenzie the contractor.

Legion Tops Legion Cribbage Schedule

The Legion team heads the Legion league in cribbage, following this week's games. Legion and Ramblers both scored 19, with Edna Mills next with 17. Union took 15 points; Tiger Cats and Town joined in bottom spot with 13.

Standing: Legion 8, Town 6, Edna Mills 6, Ramblers 6, Tiger Cats 2, Union 2.

Schedule: December 7 — Tiger Cats vs Ramblers; Town vs Edna Mills; Legion vs Union.

December 14 — Tiger Cats vs Edna Mills; Ramblers vs Legion; Town vs Union.

December 21 — Tiger Cats vs Union; Ramblers vs Edna Mills; Town vs Legion.

Father, Daughter Take Seven Awards

Showing for the first time at the Royal Winter Fair, Miss Betty Ann Kerr of R.R. 2, Acton, placed fourth in ladies' phaeton, curing the ring in an old-fashioned carriage. Some of the ladies in this class were evening gowns. Miss Kerr wore a blue dress with a matching blue sequined hat.

She also placed sixth in a class of 13 in ladies' drive.

Her father, Kerr took six horses to the Fair, winning two seconds, one third, one fourth and one fifth.

Acclaim Tyler Mayor; to Elect Council from Nine Nominees

"Piano or Bust" Fund Upped \$150

Members of the Home and School Association are "quite satisfied" with the results of their project, the showing of the film, "Welcome the Queen" in the public school auditorium Wednesday of last week. About \$150 was cleared, swelling the total collected so far for a piano to \$450.

"Piano or Bust" is the current slogan of the club, which hopes to raise \$1,000 or more for a grand piano for the school. Included in the sum already raised is about \$100 proceeds of the last appetizing "Welcome the Queen" had a special showing for school children in the afternoon at the school and two screenings in the evening. Elmer Smith ran the projector.

Tied for first place in selling tickets to the show were two classrooms, Mrs. Allen's and Mrs. Turner's. They split a \$5 cash prize.

Mrs. Allen's room has been a consistent winner lately. They have won the attendance prize from Home and School meetings; the past three months in succession, and won the prize for selling the most Christmas cards just recently.

Mr. McKeown presented Dave Graham with his \$1 prize for submitting the project slogan, "Piano or Bust."

92 Years Young

Birthday congratulations are extended to John Graff, who will be 92 years young on December 7. Mr. Graff has lived in this district for the last 33 years and prior to that lived in and was one of the first settlers in the Powassan area. He is still hale and hearty and goes for a walk every day.

Convert Rockwood In November, 1955

Rockwood will be converted from 25 to 60 cycles during the third week in October, 1955, it was announced this week. There are 260 domestic and commercial customers in the village. The area around Rockwood and Guelph will be converted the same week, the fourth week of October and the first week in November next year.

Some six months before change-over hydro personnel make door-to-door calls on the domestic and commercial customers concerned and list the make, model and other details of every electrical appliance which will undergo modification before being operated at 60 cycle.

Base for changeover to 60 cycles in the municipalities of Guelph, Rockwood, Elora, Fergus and surrounding rural areas will be Ontario hydro's standardization offices, warehouses and workshops at Kitchener.

When changeover is actually under way clock and fan depots will be established in these municipalities in order to enable customers to exchange these appliances within reasonable distances from their own homes. Customers will be advised by mail and press advertisements of the location of these depots.

Listings have already been made of the equipment needing change-over in Guelph, Rockwood, Elora and Fergus industrial plants.

Former Tiger Cat Speaker at Banquet

Members of the high school rugby team, last year's team, some of the staff and special guests attended a rugby banquet in the Station Hotel on Friday. After about 25 enjoyed dinner, they heard guest speaker Jerry Fitzgerald tell some of his experiences playing rugby with the Western rugby team and the Hamilton Tiger Cats.

Mr. Fitzgerald told the boys of the importance of linking their sports and academic studies. He showed a film of the Queen's Western game which was played about three weeks ago.

Acton high's rugby coach, Mr. Heron, introduced Mr. Sterling of Toronto, who in turn introduced Mr. Fitzgerald. Fred Gordon thanked the speaker.

Ross Morton was master of ceremonies for the program.

Bill Skilling led a sing song. Bob Coon proposed the toast to the Queen. Jo Jany proposed the toast to the school and the principal, E. Hansen, replied.

Staff members Mr. Lowry and Mr. Ringler also attended the banquet.

On Saturday evening the members of the rugby team and friends went dancing at The Highlands in Galt.

Acclaim School Board

L. Masters and E. Tyler were also nominated to the P.U.C. but withdrew. Another nominee, N. Hurst, failed to qualify.

Councillor R. Hargrave steps up to the reeve's job in 1955 after gaining the post when Reeve J. Stewart withdrew his name and present deputy Reeve R. Thompson failed to qualify Saturday.

Councillor E. Footitt will be Acton's deputy reeve next year. Three others submitted for the position, R. Thompson, E. Hargrave and C. Lindsay, withdrew their names.

The three retiring members of the public school board, T. Jones, C. Bradley and C. Heard, all were acclaimed to office again when the fourth nominee to the Board, J. Hurst, withdrew his name.

In the nine-man election contest held Monday are: Councillors C. Lindsay, R. Langford, A. Irwin and L. Wieck, with L. Masters, F. Toth, J. R. Marshall, S. Brunelle and J. Newton.

Also nominated for council was E. Footitt who withdrew Friday, and J. Hargrave and A. Fryer who both failed to qualify.

Nominated for the mayoralty position as well as Mayor Tyler were J. Stewart and E. Braida, both of whom later withdrew.

Ladies Given Gifts At Masonic Event

The ladies were honored with gifts and prizes when Walker Lodge A.F. and A.M. held its annual Ladies' Night on Tuesday in St. Alban's parish hall. About 100 attended and were welcomed by W. M. Earl Cooper.

The program began with progressive euchre. Mrs. J. J. Stewart won the prize for ladies' high and Mrs. J. Van Fleet.

Mrs. P. Van Wyck was given a prize for having the birthday nearest to the date. A bouquet of flowers was presented to Mrs. Cooper.

Lunch of sandwiches, cookies and coffee was served by the ladies of the Girls' Guild of the church. The Rhythm Ramblers struck up the music afterwards for both round and square dancing. Mr. Kinsbury called off for the squares.

There were several prizes awarded for spot dances. Each lady was given a cup and saucer.

A. C. Patterson was head of the committee.

M.P. Tells Club Of Queen Mother

Miss Sybil Bennett, Q.C., M.P. for Halton, was the guest speaker at the Acton Y's Men's Club dinner Thursday last. She was introduced by Bob Riddale and her address on the origin, histories and work of service clubs was inspiring. She exercised a woman's privilege and changed from her topic to describe the parliamentary presentation to Her Majesty the Queen Mother.

Jack Greer suitably thanked the eminent guest by presenting her with a memento of the occasion.

The business meeting dealt with many items of club affairs, paramount of which was the coming sale of Christmas trees, which will be conducted from behind Doug Manning's store.

Preparations were finalized for the annual ladies' night when the Y's Men play host to their wives and the auxiliary who provide such outstanding meals at the dinner meetings.

Chairman Claude Cook impressed all with the urgency of selling turkey tickets.

Esquing Ratepayers . . .

Acclaim Entire Current Council For '55, Add One New Trustee

The complete Esquing township council is returned to office by acclamation and there will not be an election this year. Wilfred Bird is again reeve of the township and Walter Linham deputy-reeve. Returned to their seats on council are George Currie, Campbell Sinclair and Spencer Wilson.

James Kirkwood was returned to the school board and new member of the board is W. C. Taylor. Two school board seats were open at the nomination meeting, held Monday evening in Esquing community hall, Stewarttown.

Bert Davidson, a member of the school board, announced his resignation due to pressure of business. Murray Coles was nominated for school board but did not qualify.

Also nominated for council, but not electing to run for office, was Robert Reid.

A good crowd of about 80 attended the meeting to hear the reports of the council and school board. With K. C. Lindsay, the returning officer, as chairman, all the members of council and the nominees spoke the past year's activities and plans for next year.

G. O. Brown reported on the work of the North Halton High School District Board.

Since D. Bingham, the chairman of the school board, was unable to be present, R. Cunningham gave the report. The other member of the school board to retain his seat for another year is W. Dobie.

Christmas Spirit Caught on Page 17

Don't miss page 17! It's guaranteed to put you into a Christmas spirit if the snow this week hasn't already accomplished that. The ladies will want to read about decorations and gift suggestions. And the men shouldn't miss the suggestions for making decorations at home, and the article on the hazards of Christmas time.

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Nomination Night Speakers Deliver Competent Reports

Nomination night in Acton last Friday was a well-ordered public meeting, characterized by lack of argument, issue or contention and practically no audience participation either during or after the efficient presentation of reports from 1954's municipal representatives.

Mayor E. Tyler was the first speaker called upon after Clerk J. McGoachie announced termination of time for nominations and relinquished his chair to G. W. McKenzie, who was named chairman for the remainder of the meeting.

The Mayor first called the attention of the nearly 70 citizens present to the increase in local assessment and supplemental assessment of about \$100,000 in the year.

Reporting on many other aspects of the year's municipal business in summary, he next turned to the town's annexation case now in decision and opined that in view of Georgetown's recent success in acquiring township land, Acton's bid would likely be decided favorable to the town.

It was a good year, he continued. Four housing subdivisions are now in progress and work has been done by the drilling of two small wells, to insure the town of future water supplies.

However, the Mayor amended, there is a real need to spend more money on well drilling.

The town was "money in the pocket" by hiring an engineer jointly with Milton and Georgetown, Mayor Tyler said. He added the school board was not only saved considerable money through the engineer's services on a sidewalk job, but "he saved us money on several other small jobs."

There are changes taking place on Cobble Hill, Mayor Tyler resumed, and in the extension of sewers and water to this subdivision, it is the town's intention to use local labor and the engineer to save the taxpayer's money.

He reviewed certain sidewalk renewals on Mill and Main Streets which took place this year and briefly referred to "the mess in Warren Grove" which is now being put back into shape. He said Acton was urged by the Mayor on the need for leaving one mill for industrial promotion purposes. Promotion of this nature, he suggested, is now vitally important to Acton.

The need for establishment of a capital reserve fund was stressed by Mayor Tyler. In capital equipment this year a tractor and mower were purchased, saving the town \$300 to \$400 by buying a good used tractor. He noted the tractor can be used economically with other attachments.

Concluding Mayor Tyler praised the work of the Clerk, the town employees and council members during the past year.

Reeve J. Stewart followed the Mayor to the front of the smoke-hazed hall, and speaking first of the Warren Grove sewer extension, remarked it was "unfortunate" the lowest tender had been selected, with only the best of intentions by council, for the job.

If a higher tender had been picked, he proposed, the job might well have been completed sooner and to the better satisfaction of council and residents.

In declining an opportunity to run for Mayor, the Reeve said, he appreciated the year in office the electorate of Acton had accorded him and had thus allowed him to fill a term as Warden of the County.

Deputy Reeve R. Thompson remarked there had been a certain amount of over-spending but it was difficult to adhere to a strict budget. He made mention of the sidewalk construction on Main and Mill Streets, the extra equipment purchased this year and laid particular emphasis on the fact that it costs Acton just about half as much to collect its garbage as in other nearby towns.

Finance Chairman C. Lindsay delivered a lengthy comprehensive report of the year's financial situation.

"I'm not ashamed of this report," he intimated, "despite the size of the anticipated deficit." He followed with an itemized review of the deficit's article, with explanations. However, the finance chairman also pointed out where expenditures had been kept below the budget.

Actually, Councillor Lindsay no-

ted budget items themselves, as the statement bears out, are well-balanced and this was a point remarked upon by the auditors.

As for the deficit items, he continued, they are largely composed of unforeseen expenditures along with the carrying, 1953 deficit over by about \$2,000 and a \$3,000 deficit this year in sewer operations.

The unforeseen costs — sidewalk renewals, well drilling, the tractor and mower, hiring of the engineer, arena roof repairs and police office renovations — these could be termed not as "deficits" but as "a surplus in civic improvement," Councillor Lindsay declared.

Observing that "a budget is a matter of compromise," he underlined an earlier statement that the budget by this council "balances very well."

The speaker paused momentarily, then attacked what he termed as unjustified criticism of Mayor Tyler: "Some people think," he said, "that Tyler as mayor means a deficit."

"I would like this meeting to know," he declared, "that I moved or seconded every financial report during this year, and if any blame

(Continued on Page Thirteen)

Election Day

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Merchant's Group Propose Hours

A substantial group of Mill Street businessmen have agreed on special open hours during the two weeks preceding Christmas, it was learned this week.

Present proposal would have the Wednesday before Christmas, December 22, open all day. Also, from Friday night, the 17th, through to the 24th, the stores concerned propose to remain open each night.

A more detailed announcement will be made next week.



THE LAST TILE! Down it goes in Warren Grove's final sewer excavations which last week, after mud, water, bumps and general inconvenience had characterized the work since mid-summer. Here workmen pause for a smile before dropping the conduit.

Nassagaweya Citizens . . .

Pepper Criticism at Twp. Road State, Engineer; Acclaim Slate

Criticism against the calibre of road work done on Halton's roads, and more particularly those in Nassagaweya, was centred Monday on County Engineer R. Smith by ratepayers of that township who, after acclimating Reeve Archie Service for a second term, grew rather heated in their charges.

Nassagaweya Council remains the same for 1955 after J. Robertson, only new nominee, failed to qualify. Sitting council is J. S. Norrish, J. L. Chisholm, C. Thomson, J. A. Milne. Both retiring school board members, C. Brinklow and D. Moffat, return to the Board for 1955 after two other new nominees, M. Anderson and C. Agnew, failed to qualify.

In his address before the nomination gathering, meeting in the partially-filled hall at Brookville, Reeve Service brushed on other phases of the township council's 1954 record but dwelt mainly on the matter of road work, accomplished and projected.

"The kind of roads we'd like to have will cost us money, don't forget that," Reeve Service reminded his electorate. He noted that of the 150 miles of road in Halton, some \$275,000 was allowed for construction and maintenance in 1954.

Remarks Not Laudatory

He was questioned on this budget and it was borne out that the amount Halton spends on road work is comparatively less than money used by the neighboring counties of Peel and Wellington for the same purpose.

Shortly after this phase of his address, remarks from the floor were directed at the actions of Mr. Smith in his capacity of county engineer. The remarks were not laudatory.

At one point, Reeve Service replied he did not always agree with Mr. Smith at County Council, but he believed he was not so narrow as to fail to give credit where credit is due. When the Reeve was questioned about county council's recent increase on Mr. Smith's salary, and the Reeve's position in this matter, Mr. Service defended that he supported a motion for an increase of several hundred dollars as an alternative to a move that would bring the salary up even greater, to the \$6,000 bracket.

Never "Soft-Soaped"

Reeve Service later denied he had even been "soft-soaped" by the engineer and went on to caution the critics in the audience that stories rumored about public officials often have no foundation.

Amidst a barrage of criticism against the engineer's professional policies in countryroad work, one ratepayer rose to emphasize there was no criticism of Mr. Smith's personality, but purely of his ability as county engineer in regard to road work.

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