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LOCAL CLERGYMEN for two entirely different reasons are in the news this week. Recently Rev. Evan Jones, who is pictured left, was inducted as the rector of St. Alban's Anglican church, Acton, and St. John's, Rockwood. Last Sunday, Rev. E. A. Currey, right, made public his acceptance of a call to Wellington St. church in London. He has been in Acton for the past five years as minister of the United church. He and Mrs. Currey will leave in July.

County Jail Employees' Wages Up But Unsettled

Wages of employees at the County Jail are still not settled after members of County Council approved a \$100 a year increase at their regular meeting at Milton Tuesday. A month ago employees requested council for an increase, and the committee headed by Reeve Harold Adkins had council approve of the increase.

Rev. E. A. Currey Accepts City Call

After a pastorate at Acton United church for five years, Rev. E. A. Currey will move next July to London where he will be the minister of Wellington St. United church. Mr. Currey's move was ratified by Presbytery Tuesday and the call for the church here endorsed. Acton United church has been declared open for settlement, and a pastoral relations committee of six church members has been appointed.

Already several prospective ministers have contacted the local church. Rev. Currey's new charge is a downtown church in London with a congregation of about 700 as compared to 400 here. It is well organized with church parlours and special meeting rooms. A new pipe organ and parsonage will soon be acquired, and Mr. and Mrs. Currey will take up residence in the new parsonage.

Mr. Currey learned that Rev. Hunt, who was pastor of the London congregation for 17 years, is the father of Orme Hunt who was accountant in the Bank of Montreal here. Rev. Currey is going in the ministry for 47 years, is going as visitations assistant to Dr. Goth in London.

Presbytery Meets At Bethel Church

At the meeting of the United church Presbytery on Tuesday, four calls were announced, including that of Rev. E. A. Currey of Acton United church to London. The meeting in Bethel church, Hornby, was largely attended.

The president of the Hamilton conference, Dr. Waldemar Williams of Westdale church, Hamilton, and Dr. George Little of head office spoke to the group of ministers and laymen.

The May meeting is to be held at Five Oaks church training centre south of Paris, and the Hamilton conference will be held for five days in Sudbury, those present learned. While the ministers are at Sudbury, all the vacant pulpits in the Presbytery will be filled by laymen.

Booster Plate Sale Y's Men's Project

Boosting Acton is the latest project for the Y's Men's club. The group has purchased 300 red and white bumper plates which will be sold at Acton, Ont. The Centre of Progress.

Bill Wilson has distributed booster plates to all the members of the club and some have sold as many as 50 already.

Tale of Trained Tracks

Bears in Suspicion Around Spring?

Track patterns of a large, four-clawed animal, a shredded tree and suspicious looking burrows in the wooded area south of Acton's main spring have given rise to disputed speculation that a family of bears is living less than a mile from the town's southern limits.

Last week a group of municipal officials was scouting the area south of the spring in search of possible water sources, when the tracks were discovered.

Retain Consultant for Town Planning, Zoning By-Law

Controlled, Orderly Growth Is Stressed By Planning Expert

Council Condemns New Policy
Protests Police Removal as 'Backward Step'

Acton will have to set up its own police force in 1956 when a change in Ontario Provincial Police policy dealing with towns of 2,000 population and over comes into effect, council was told at a special Friday night session.

An official notification informed the municipality that as of December 31, 1955, the present contract with the OPP will terminate and will not be renewed. Similar letters have been received by more than 40 other Ontario municipalities affected by the policy change.

Councillors have reacted with surprise and dismay at this news. Mayor E. Tyler, who urged a protest be filed immediately, termed the action as "a step backward in the province." Towns would now be without province-wide communication, he said, and argued that policing would be generally more effective.

"Big Bill of Expense"
"It'll be a big bill of expense for us and some 47 other towns who'll be caught without police," he added.

The mayor asked council for a resolution condemning the action and that a letter of protest be sent from this town to Premier Leslie Frost, with copies to Attorney General Dana Porter and the Inspector of Police, as well as the Provincial riding member, for Halton, Stan Hall.

After brief discussion in which all councillors agreed in criticism of the police withdrawal, a motion endorsing a letter of protest, was passed.

Earlier in the special meeting, it was reported the offer made for an additional nine acres of land for public school purposes in Acton's eastern section had been turned down by the landowner. Despite some objections that further negotiations should be carried on by the public school trustees themselves, it was agreed that in accordance with the board's wishes, another joint approach should be made through council and board representatives.

Continues Negotiations
A motion was passed that council's previous motion setting the offer figure on road allowance in

the property be rescinded and a committee empowered to use its own judgment in making a deal within a stated price-per-acre range.

It was learned this week that negotiations are continuing favorably.

Clerk J. McGeachie told council the total assessment in the newly-annexed area, less the town's properties is \$420,912. A by-law adopting the assessment on the annexed portion was read.

Council was informed of a decision by Georgetown council to withdraw from the engineering agreement set up by the North Halton Urban Board. It was expressed,

following discussion of this move, that Georgetown was under some obligation to fulfill the agreement for 1955. Chiefly, this would mean continuation of cost share by that town until the end of the year.

Milton, Acton Carry On
Views were aired by several councillors on what course of action should be taken. Cost division readjustment was examined and the possibility of Milton also dropping out of the engineering arrangement was left open for speculation.

The question was raised if Acton could be prepared to employ an engineer full-time for this town alone.

Possibility of this move was concentrated on for some time. At length, a motion empowered Mayor Tyler and Councillors E. Footitt and J. Newton, as a committee, to meet with Milton and continue the engineering arrangement if possible on a bi-town basis, but if not to advise Milton, that Acton was prepared to hire its own engineer and to dissolve the engineering agreement under the North Halton Urban Board.

(Tuesday evening in Milton, this committee met with Milton councillors and the group agreed to carry through the engineering agreement on a bi-town basis for the remainder of the year.)

Shure an' It's Blarney

But Envy Wears Green on the 17th

Published recently was a scholarly treatise called *The Vanishing Irish*. Someone as the book's title indicates, was banishing the Irish from the earth.

Apparently the authors reckoned without the 17th of March.

On that day there are only two types of people—those who are Irish and those who wish they were.

The Irish, eloquent, witty, tumultuous, peaceful, saintly, puzzling, depending a lot on your point of view, celebrate the feast of St. Patrick with their usual hilarity.

There's dancing, music and all kinds of blarney. They wear shamrocks, stage parades and swing shillelaghs. The tell stories in a twang that delights the ear. They dare, they boast, they sing, they argue and they pray.

Spread far beyond the borders of the Emerald Isle, the Irish exert considerable influence on the culture of the country. People of Irish origin in the United States, for instance, outnumber their relatives in Eire and Ulster by four to one.

In Canada, it is estimated there are nearly as many Irishmen and people of Irish descent as in the whole of Eire, Montreal itself having well over 100,000. And on the

17th of Ireland, Irishmen the world over are "wearing the Green" in honor of St. Pat.

St. Patrick, of course, was a Frenchman say the French, a Scotsman say the Scots, an Italian say the Italians and a certain Toronto radio columnist, and even the English claim his birthplace was in England. An indication of the popularity of the good saint can be got from the interest in where he was born. Mention it to a Celt and you've got a full scale argument before you can pat the top of your hat.

'Tis said that anyone who kisses the blarney stone, the only rock of any importance to the Irish, awakens St. Patrick's morn with the ability to speak like angels. And there's proof they have to submit to you.

The blarney stone, as you know doubt know, is as near to heaven as a prince name of McCarthy was able to put it. McCarthy, so the legend relates, was given the stone as a gift from the Scots after he had sent 5,000 men to aid in the battle of Bannockburn. The most precious thing the Scots have is the Stone of Scone. And it was a piece of that immortal rock upon which Jacob laid his head that the Scots gave to McCarthy. Which accounts for the Irishman's glib tongue.

There have been many famous sons of Erin but standing head and shoulders above them all have been Pat and Mike. Fondness for wit is characteristic of the Irish as their love of music.

Well, today's the day. And can't you tell Irish music on the radio, Irish jokes in the air.

And did you hear what happened at Dolan's?

A man around collecting donations stopped at the Dolan residence. He rapped on the door and when Mrs. Dolan appeared, said: "Excuse me, madam, but would you care to contribute to the Home for Alcoholics?"

Retorted Mrs. Dolan: "Shure. Come back this evening and ye can have Dolan."

You must admit, the Irish might be anything else but they are never dull.

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No Agreement Between Area H.S. Board, Milton on School Sale

At a conference of the Milton Public School Board, the North Halton-High School District Board and Mr. Routley, superintendent of elementary schools of the Department of Education, Mr. Johnston, High School inspector for the district and L. L. Skuce, inspector of Public Schools for Halton, no agreement was reached on the proposal for Milton Public School to purchase the present High School building in Milton. Mr. Ledwith of the Public School Board presided.

Mr. Routley outlined the position clearly and pointed out the debenture indebtedness on the present building. Mr. Johnston told of similar cases in Aurora, Leamington and Sutton where transfers of properties had been made from one Board to another. It was pointed out that sale price must be a reasonable one to consummate the plan.

Chairman W. J. Coon of the High School Board explained the difficulties of negotiations where five municipalities were concerned and suggested an offer be made by the Public School Board.

Opposition from Equestrian
Members of the Public School Board intimated that the price for the building would require to be below \$60,000 and that Public School accommodation must be available before September. An answer from the High School Board must not be delayed beyond two weeks.

Mr. Routley thought the debenture indebtedness against the school was \$80,000 to \$85,000 and felt the Board would do well if this amount was received for the building.

The secretary of the High School Board who represented Equestrian Township had been furnished with a copy of a resolution passed by Equestrian Council stating that township's objection to selling the present building and building a new High School Building, Nassagaweya representatives felt that

Dumb Robins

Robins are here! Several people reported seeing them this week when, judging by the look of the dark sky, the threat is changed from that of snow to that of rain.

Although everyone is delighted to see the birds that fly ahead of spring, one small help, but think they're not the smartest of robins. They must be a little soft in their perky heads to think they'll find good weather here so soon.

However, the fact that robins are here is still among the most pleasant news of the week.

Investigate Blaze At Night in Trailer

Investigations by a representative of the Ontario Fire-Marsall's office are being made this week following a Saturday night blaze in a trailer moored behind MacSwain's Garage on Queen St.

Firemen, delayed in rallying when the town fire siren failed to respond from the switch at the local telephone office, rushed to the burning trailer after Fire Chief Sam Tennant sounded the alarm by ringing the town hall bell and turning on the truck siren.

Hank Earle, who lives in the trailer with his wife, alerted Chief Tennant after noticing smoke inside as he and his wife came home late Saturday night. The Fire Chief called the telephone office to ring the siren, hurried to the fire hall but found the siren would not ring. It was later found lightning had struck the mechanism.

Damage to the interior of the trailer was extensive, with most of the contents a total loss. Little of the wood frame and sheathing was damaged, however.

Cause of the fire was not stated, nor were grounds for the investigation revealed.

Further Annexation?

Whether it was the intention of the official bodies to see the town grow to 4000, 5000 or 10,000, is secondary, he indicated, the establishment of a desired "economic level" is vitally important. Mr. Deacon gave some examples of why a community should ascertain its desired degree of growth, then build toward this goal within the planning framework.

The speaker referred briefly to the role of assessment balance, the division of tax revenue from industrial-commercial and residential assessment sources.

At one point, touching on land use and expansion, he suggested it might not be out of reason to see Acton annex further lands.

Following Mr. Deacon's departure, the board passed a resolution that the firm of Deacon and Arnott be retained to prepare an official plan to implement zoning by-law on a two-year basis.

Man Crawls Unhurt From Smashed Car

The driver of a late model car which crashed into a hydro pole and was totally demolished west of here this week, crawled unhurt from his smashed vehicle, district police reported yesterday.

Charles Laven, driving west of Crewson's Corners late Tuesday night, lost control of his car when it skidded in deep slush. The car spun into a ditch, then jammed into a hydro pole, which did not break.

Police also reported two cars, driven by J. Watkins, Toronto, and T. Lyons, Georgetown, sideswiped each other Saturday in an early evening fog. The accident occurred on No. 7 highway about one mile west of here. Damage was estimated at about \$250.

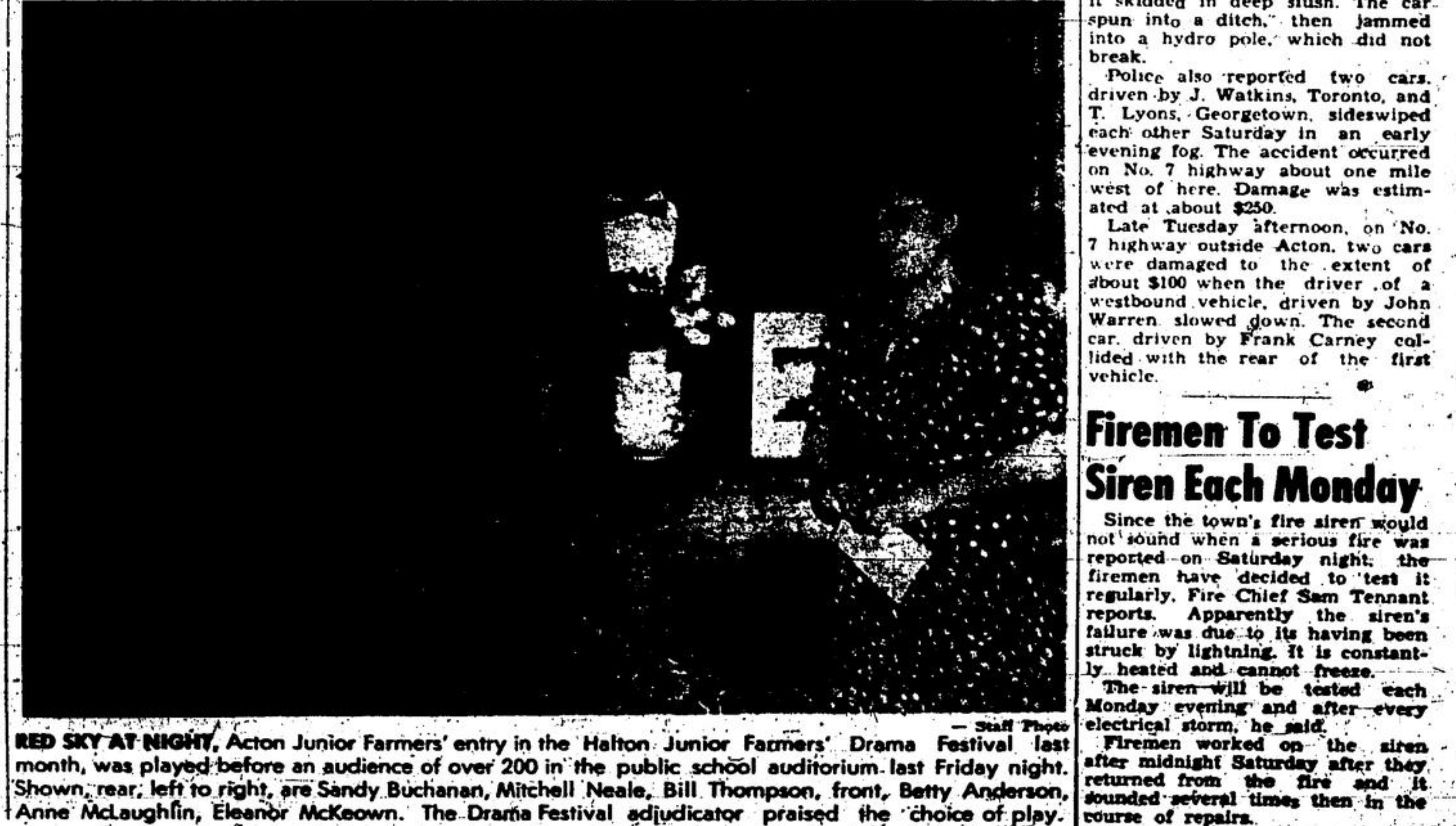
Late Tuesday afternoon, on No. 7 highway outside Acton, two cars were damaged to the extent of about \$100 when the driver of a westbound vehicle, driven by John Warren, slowed down. The second car, driven by Frank Carney, collided with the rear of the first vehicle.

Firemen To Test Siren Each Monday

Since the town's fire siren would not sound when a serious fire was reported on Saturday night, the firemen have decided to test it regularly. Fire Chief Sam Tennant reports. Apparently the siren's failure was due to its having been struck by lightning. It is constantly heated and cannot freeze.

The siren will be tested each Monday evening and after every electrical storm, he said.

Firemen worked on the siren after midnight Saturday after they returned from the fire and it sounded several times then in the course of repairs.



RED SKY AT NIGHT, Acton Junior Farmers' entry in the Halton Junior Farmers' Drama Festival last month, was played before an audience of over 200 in the public school auditorium last Friday night. Shown, rear, left to right, are Sandy Buchanan, Mitchell Neale, Bill Thompson, front, Betty Anderson, Anne McLaughlin, Eleanor McKeown. The Drama Festival adjudicator praised the "choice of play."