

# The Acton Free Press.

Eighty-First Year.—No. 4.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, AUGUST 4th, 1955

Eight Pages—Six Cents.

## P.U.C. Taps Reserve Well, Water Consumption Soars in Heat Wave

Ontario's record heat wave is very real to local Public Utilities Commissioners who took urgent steps last week to augment the town's water supply by tapping into the main at Warren Grove the 50-gallon-per-minute flow from a well drilled there last fall.

Chairman F. Oakes stressed there was no need for alarm. The town's two springs, main source of water supply for Acton's householders and industries, are holding up well and showing no sign of faltering in the dry weather, he said.

The chairman pointed out that greatly increased consumption is responsible for the utilization of the auxiliary well. Over six and a half million gallons were used in June, he said, and added that consumption is rising every month.

**Need Pump and Motor**  
In order to bring the Warren Grove well into use, installation of a pump and motor at the well site and laying of a copper line to the water main on MacDonald Blvd. was found necessary.

At a short-notice meeting with members of Council, the Commission discussed purchase of a pump, of a type and capacity sufficient to raise the water from the well to the main, from a Fergus manufacturer. Contact with the company was made at this meeting and advice sought on the type of pump needed, to be operated by three-

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## Accident Kills Ray Parkhouse

Acton friends were shocked to learn that Ray Parkhouse, a teller in the Bank of Nova Scotia who left last May, was killed in a motor accident on Saturday.

Mr. Parkhouse, 20, whose home is in Plattsville, and Douglas Foreman, 21, of Bright, were killed when a car crashed into the rear of a truck, 20 miles north-west of Brantford. A third occupant of the car, David Shearer, 18, of Bright, was taken to the hospital in Woodstock and reported in fair condition.

Police said the three young men were in the front seat of Foreman's car when a truck driven by Nile Schantz, R.R. 1, Plattsville, slowed down due to engine trouble. The truck was partly off the road on No. 97 highway.

Mr. Parkhouse, who boarded in town with Miss Emma Cole, joined the staff of the bank here on October 11, 1954. On May 24, 1955, he was transferred to Toronto and had been working at the Bloor and Yonge branch of the bank.

## A Resounding Success

## Minor Sports Day Parades Gay Array of Games, Play

A resounding success that will definitely be repeated on an even bigger scale, according to officials, was the first annual Minor Sports Day which attracted well over 500 to the park on Civic Holiday. A Calithumpian parade in the morning was followed by a full program of races, games, and sports, concluding with a dance on the tennis courts in the evening.

The main streets of the town, deserted early on the holiday morning, filled with cars and people when the gay Calithumpian parade started its march from the station to the park. The fire truck headed the parade followed by the decorated Legion float with some of the boys of the Minor Sports teams aboard. Mike Cox's float, "The Old and the New" in the plumbing business, carried much merriment. Cars, trucks and cars with streamers and placards and balloons preceded the Acton band, dressed in outlandish

## Meet on Train After 27 Years

Two former Acton residents who hadn't seen each other for 27 years met in the parlor car of a train recently. Jim McGeechie, who lives in Toronto now, was leaving Chicago when he encountered Joe McCann on the train. Mr. McCann, the son of a coal yard operator in Acton, was on his way from Vancouver.

## Family Party On Anniversary For H. Hinton's

Their four children and seven grandchildren will be present when Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Hinton celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Sunday. Two sons are coming from as far as New York and Regina.

Mr. and Mrs. Hinton, who live on Lake Ave., were married in Kingsland Congregational church in London, England, on August 7, 1905. Mrs. Hinton, the former Lillian May Todd, was born in Uxbridge and Mr. Hinton was born in London. She is now 72 years old, her husband, 80.

They came from England in 1911, to settle in Toronto for 13 years. They came to Acton in 1924, and moved from here to Streetsville in 1939. They returned to Acton in 1948. Mr. Hinton also worked in Georgetown and Montreal. He is a watchmaker by trade. He has been active in Oddfellows and the Masonic Lodge.

Mr. and Mrs. Hinton have four children. Henry, William of New York is expected home for the celebrations. Norman, who has been living in Regina, is moving to Toronto this week and will be here on Sunday. Bert is one of Acton's well known merchants. Their daughter, Edna, Mrs. C. O. Burn, lives in Toronto.

Their many Acton friends join their family in extending congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Hinton.

## Acton Defeats Carlisle After Two Losses

The ladies' softball team, which defeated Carlisle in an exhibition match as part of the Minor Sports Day, events on Civic Holiday, encountered two other teams recently with less success.

Wednesday of last week the team lost to Eden Mills by a decisive 15-3. On May 24, 1955, they were defeated by Rockwood on Thursday.

On Monday in the park the ladies defeated Carlisle 17-9.



**GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY** of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Hinton will be marked this Sunday when children, grandchildren and friends will gather to honor the celebrants at their home on Lake Ave. Mr. and Mrs. Hinton have four children, seven grandchildren.

## Two Pasture Grass Fires Cause Hectic Time for Acton Brigade

Acton firemen had a busy long week-end, thanks mostly to tinder-dry conditions which intensified three out of four blazes attended by the local brigade. Only one fire was in town.

Friday, an alarm was rung in from Eden Mills where a fire of unknown cause had caught the dry grass around the house owned by Buck Hamilton, then leaped to a nearby tank of gasoline and saved considerable equipment from damage. Cause of this fire was also unknown.

Tuesday afternoon, within 15 minutes, two fires on Nasagaweya township farms caused alarms of the Acton brigade and also brought the Georgetown brigade in under Mutual Aid emergency.

The first call from the farm of Andrew Laing, near the Town Line minutes, two fires on Nasagaweya way, brought the Acton brigade speeding to fight a pasture-grass fire about 15 minutes after the truck left town, a call came through from the farm of Roy Coulter, near the First Line of Nasagaweya.

Acton firemen, aided by farmers, fought the Laing fire to near control for about three-quarters of an hour, then left for the Coulter fire which was burning more seriously a short distance away. Shortly after the fire arrived at the second pasture-grass fire, the Georgetown brigade came in to give assistance.

The fire, fought for some two hours by brigade members and teams of farmers, was prevented from spreading to buildings but consumed nearly 50 acres.

## Council Juggles Gas Franchise Rights Between Rival Bidders

## Growth Steady As Commercial Building Blooms

Building in and near Acton continues to mushroom as the summer lengthens out in what may be the biggest construction year in the town's history.

On the eastern edge of town, a new service station and garage is being constructed by Ted Tyler Jr. Located at the Third Line corner, the station is expected to open later this month. The large rear portion of the structure will be rented to Tyler Transport as a truck garage.

Further east, on No. 7 Highway at the Fifth Line, a new service station is being built by Ross Baitentine, who already owns a local service station and garage building operated by Anthony-Little Motors. Construction is well under way at this new station.

Still further east on No. 7 Highway, off near the Sixth Line and No. 20 Sideroad, it is reported Esquering council has granted permission to Jim Woods, Huntsville, to erect a drive-in theatre. The site is on lands owned by R. Mitchell. No construction has been reported yet.

Where fact is lacking, rumor has been plenty in the case of an unknown group who are said to be interested in putting a large supermarket on land near the No. 7 Highway-Seventh Line intersection. There has been nothing reported to verify this talk.

Although no terms have been reached or deals closed, interested parties have been reported looking at land in front of the Glenlea subdivision and on the other side of the Third Line with a view to commercial development.

In downtown Acton, work progresses on a new butcher shop which is expected to open up shortly. It is learned there may be news of other business changes and additions on Mill Street before the month is over.

## Lightning Bolt Causes TV Fire at Noon Today

While Mrs. Harold Townsley was sitting in the living-room of her Cameron St. home today at noon, a bolt of lightning struck the building, sizzled along wires and caused a fire in her television set. A neighbor, Charlie Waterhouse, came to her assistance and put out the blaze.

The bolt, which may have followed the television wiring or hydro lines, caused the wiring in the fuse box to be welded solid "as if you'd put a torch to it."

Lightning struck the same locality during the last thunderstorm.

## Glenlea House Hit By Lightning

A severe electrical storm directly overhead caused damage in Acton on Wednesday of last week. An Erin district farmer was killed by lightning during the same storm.

One of the houses under construction in the new Glenlea subdivision was severely damaged when it was struck by lightning. Fred Laing, driving a bulldozer nearby, narrowly escaped shock by the bolt. The rain had not yet begun when the bolt struck the house.

It hit the roof of the house and continued through the walls to the foundation, knocking the mortar out from between the newly-laid bricks and smashing windows. Fortunately, no one was in the house at the time. Damage was estimated at \$300. Rain poured down during the short and violent storm. No flooding was reported.

The television aerial at Mayfair restaurant was also struck by lightning. The evening before, in Muskoka, the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Force was struck by lightning, with only slight damage resulting.



**CALITHUMPIAN PARADE** which preceded Monday's Minor Sports program of games, races and other sports events is shown in this roof-top view as the colorful line of floats, musicians and bedecked marchers winds its way down Mill Street. In the foreground is the section of decorated bicycles, tricycles and buggies, pulled or pushed by children. The parade ended up in the park.

## Telephone Rate Increases To Come Into Effect For Acton In September

Because the Acton area has outgrown its present telephone rate group, its present telephone rates will increase. The company is required to report to the Board, twice yearly, the status of exchanges whose total telephone calls have increased more than five per cent. beyond the limits of their group.

The Acton area has expanded steadily in recent years and its progress has been accompanied by a parallel growth in the number of telephones. Acton residents now have 1,113 telephones in their local calling area as of June 30, 1955.

To simplify the adjustment of customers' accounts, the new rates will become effective on the first normal billing date following the 30 days' notice required by the Board. This will be September 1, 1955.

Lloyd Minshall, from Oakville and Mr. Luntz from Wood River, Illinois, attended the Rotary club meeting in Acton on Tuesday.

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## Claims Misunderstanding

Tony Seynuck, at mention of the Halton Natural Gas Company which at last council meeting had unsuccessfully tried to get a by-law reading on a franchise for Acton, said Milton and Georgetown were now giving readings to a franchise by-law in favor of his company.

Mr. Riddick explained there had been some misunderstanding in Georgetown, where it was thought one of the Halton Natural Gas representatives was connected with the Anthony Gas & Oil Explorations.

The secretary-treasurer also said Esquering township council was prepared to grant a franchise to his company.

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## Concrete Poured Erect Partitions At H. S. Addition

Good progress is being made at the new addition at Acton High school with three full classrooms, a nurse's room and a storage room. The section is roofed and the hall-way joined to the former building. The heating, plumbing and electrical connections in the floor are finished and the concrete surface poured.

Partitions are erected and immediately the piping and wiring are completed. The carpenters are following up enclosing walls and ceiling. It is expected that plastering of the walls will be started next week and that window frames will be installed then. The terrace floors in the hall can then be laid. Work is being rushed so that rooms in the new section will be ready for the opening of school in September.

In the meantime, new desks and chairs for the library classrooms and the necessary teachers' desks have been delivered at the school ready for repainting. Provision has been made in the new section for any additions to classrooms that may be necessary for heating, etc.

## Three Fingers Left After Farm Accident

Seven fingers were either wholly or partially lost by Mrs. Norman Armstrong of R.R. 1, Acton, in an accident at her farm home on Wednesday of last week. A load of grain was being backed up when Mrs. Armstrong caught her fingers between a pulley and a rope.

After treatment and many stitches, only three full fingers, including one thumb, were left. Mrs. Armstrong is recuperating in Guelph General Hospital after the unfortunate accident.



**OLDTIMERS' BASEBALL TEAM**, lined up against Acton's current intermediate squad, provided a four inning game during the Minor Sports day program that had its moments of amusement as well as excitement. Shown here from left to right, are: Hec Lambert, Lorne Masters, Percy Woods, Don Ryder, Gib Jordan, middle, Harry Holmes, Norm Morton, Bus Morton, Bob Anderson, rear, Eli Masters, Doug Guthrie, John Goy, Bill Waterhouse, Bob Footitt, Duke Lindsay, Jack Stewart.