

# The Acton Free Press.

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**CONVENTION CONVERSATION** is caught by the camera before Friday afternoon's Halton Teachers' Institute sessions started in the Acton public school auditorium. Shown left to right are, Milton Principal E. W. Foster, Institute President N. H. Stevenson, Burlington; Inspector L. L. Skuce; F. L. Barrett who conducted reading demonstrations before all teachers; Etobicoke Public School Superintendent K. F. Preuter, a guest speaker; Acton Principal G. W. McKenzie; Assistant Inspector R. F. Bornhold; Scarborough Public School Inspector F. S. Cooper, the second guest speaker. Three hundred and ninety teachers gathered in Acton for the convention.

## Acton Host to 390 Halton Teachers For Institute's Annual Convention

Public school teachers from the four corners of Halton, and all points between convened 390 strong last Friday in Acton for their yearly day of forums, discussions, addresses and business.

The members of the Halton Teachers' Institute watched reading demonstrations, conducted by F. L. Barrett, and heard afternoon addresses by Etobicoke school superintendent K. F. Preuter and Scarborough Inspector F. S. Cooper. They also took part in discussion groups and concluded the day with business and election of officers.

W. D. Smith, Acton, assumes the office of president for 1955-56. Past president will be N. H. Stevenson, Burlington. Mrs. June Evans of Georgetown was named vice-president and Miss M. S. Gemmel, Milton, the secretary and treasurer F. V. Brown, Oakville, will continue in those offices.

Rural representatives are: Ralph McKeown, Esquesing; Mrs. Eleada Thompson, Nassagaweya; Mrs. E. Musick, Nelson; R. Mellott, Trafalgar. Graded school representatives are J. Leadbeater, Burlington and Bronte; H. Speers, Nelson; Mrs. M. Whewell, North Halton; D. Ross, Oakville; J. K. Graham, Trafalgar; Sister Majella, Separate Schools.

One major resolution was passed, with only one apparent objector, by the membership during the business session. The teachers resolved that the Minister of Education be petitioned to introduce legislation which would legalize non-acceptance in grade schools where a kindergarten does not exist of children under five years of age. Chief reason for this stand was cited as the child's inability to cope with reading instruction at that age.

The chairman of the meeting assured one questioner that the reason was not because of the general school space shortage.

Earlier retiring President Stevenson passed on to the membership an invitation to accompany teachers from the inspectorate of North Wellington on a proposed train excursion to New York next fall.

Milton Principal E. W. Foster read the nominating committee's report, a resolution of thanks to the Acton Board, school staff and members of the United, Anglican and Presbyterian churches who served the noon dinner. He also passed on a resolution that the new executive take steps to cope with the growing size of the Teachers' Institute and the problems created because of this at convention time.

President-elect W. D. Smith made a brief speech. He anticipated the co-operation of the new executive and said he would work to be worthy of the office.

### Inside This Issue

On Page Three of this issue of the Free Press will be found a complete coverage of the annual convention of the Halton Teachers' Institute, held here last Friday.

In addition to staff pictures are reports on the speakers' topics, group discussions, inspectors' messages and other sidelights of the convention.

### Youth Sets the Pace

## Halton Plowing Match One of Largest

"When we realize that three-quarters of the world's population is engaged in agriculture, we must realize the amount of responsibility that rests on the shoulders of these men," were the very fitting words of J. D. Thomas, speaker at the Halton Plowmen's banquet held Friday evening after the annual Halton County Plowing Match.

The match this year was held in a very attractive setting, on the farm of J. J. Thistlewaite, first line, Esquesing. The sun came out bright and strong, making a perfect day for the annual match. The Thistlewaite farm, set back beside the Niagara escarpment, was the scene of bustling activity as both tractors and horses made designs in the land.

As usual, the younger competitors turned out in good numbers, with the youngest plowman, 14-year-old Keith Leslie. Mary Lou Taylor, of the "plowing Taylor family," was the second-youngest person plowing and was the only girl who attempted to match her skill with the boys.

A very good turnout of horses saw eight teams competing with fine showmanship reported in each class.

**250 Attend Banquet**

The plowmen's banquet was held Friday evening in the Agricultural Building, Milton. An estimated 250 persons sat down to a delicious meal, prepared by the ladies of the Scotch Block. The meal consisted of multiple helpings of cold roast pork, potatoes, turnips, pickles, salads and the usual variety of pies. As director Ross Segsworth stated, "the difference between a good meal and an excellent meal is the difference between one or two pieces of pie."

When the meal was finished,

Block Brothers of Palermo gave numerous selections on their accordion and electric guitar. J. Spence Wilson, the president of the Halton county plowing match, thanked Mr. and Mrs. Thistlewaite for their splendid co-operation and stated that it was one of the largest matches ever held in Halton. There were 62 ridges plowed by 47 contestants.

"Taken on the whole," he said, "it was a very successful match."

Bob Shannon, warden of Halton county, welcomed the visiting plowmen from other counties, saying that "agriculture has been the greatest industry in Halton, so protect, keep and practice it the way you have done."

Stanley J. Hall, M.P.P., introduced the speaker, J. D. Thomas, the president of the World Plowing Association, who went to a meeting of the

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## Guest Speaker At Anniversary

A guest speaker, special music and the annual turkey dinner highlighted the observance of the anniversary of Acton United church this week. Speaker at both morning and evening services was Rev. Arthur Kewley, B.A., B.D. of Brant Ave. United church in Brantford. There was an exceptionally large congregation in the morning when Mr. Kewley spoke on, "Is All Too Much?" His topic for the evening service, which was also well attended was, "Jesus' Idea of Conversion."

Music for the services was under the direction of the organist and choirmaster, George Elliott. Special soloist was W. Stratton.

Rev. Adams was the guest speaker at Mr. Kewley's church in Brantford.

### Pranks and Parties

## Quiet Hallowe'en in Town No Vandalism Reported

These witches and ghosts and hoboes that looked so frightening on Monday evening proved to have both sense and sensibility. Hallowe'en damage in town was slight, with wires and trees festooned with paper and some road signs knocked over.

Acton young people are obviously better behaved than those in other, neighboring centres. Hundreds of dollars of damage was done in Milton and in the countryside around the town. Mail boxes were down and highway signs were torn down and thrown onto the roads.

Other than a few road signs uprooted, no vandalism was reported in Acton. Police Chief Ray Mason said Acton young people are to be commended for their sensible conduct Hallowe'en night. He added that they were able to have their fun without causing property damage or being destructive.

Guards were posted at the public school and were kept alert during the evening as groups of youngsters watched from a distance. No tricks were played here.

### Many Parties

Soap designs were etched on store windows, homes and cars as the exuberant masqueraders celebrated the traditional All Hallowe'en Eve. Tuesday morning revealed chairs and other articles on roofs in Warren Grove.

Baptist and Presbyterian Young People's joined for a Hallowe'en party in costume that evening. In the country, many parties were held in the schools.

Monday afternoon at school the youngsters had class parties as well. Shocking news for Acton friends was that Roy Lambert of Drayton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lambert of Acton, was injured on Hallowe'en. He was rushed to Guelph General Hospital with gunshot wounds in his face, neck and shoulders. Police are investigating the circumstances.

A group of 44 children registered and picked up banks to collect pennies for the United Nations Children's Fund. These youngsters, who were beaming with delight at gathering for other children as well as for themselves, returned a total of

\$32.10 to the committee in charge of the project. The money was sent this week to Ottawa for forwarding to the United Nations.

As a reward for the children who took part in gathering money for less fortunate youngsters in other countries, Henry Deveau is giving each child a free ticket to the coming movie, "Assignment Children," which shows Danny Kaye telling of the work done with money from the United Nations Children's Fund. The committee will provide a bag of popcorn for each of the 44 youngsters and will attend so parents need not come too if it is not convenient. Mr. Deveau promises some cartoons that evening, too.

A letter of thanks is being sent

to all the children who devoted their evening to helping others. Of course, they were given candies, too.

Dick Bean of the committee also received other donations from various sources for the UNICEF project. The idea of gathering for children of other countries at Hallowe'en is nation-wide.

The Y's Men's Club cancelled its party in the arena this year due to a lack of interest on the part of the children. Members felt their money would be better spent some other way.

Calling door-to-door proved fun enough for most Acton children and adults both as shopping bags and baskets filled to overflowing with candies, apples, peanuts and gum.

## Survey of Pre-School Children Necessary for Board Planning

To keep the public school board informed of future school needs, the members of the board requested a survey of present pre-school age children at their meeting on Tuesday. The secretary was directed to request a report from council concerning the building permits issued recently, so increased enrolment could be anticipated.

Chairman Wes Wolfe presided at the meeting with trustees Heard, Watson, Bradley and Mattocks present.

G. W. McKenzie reported that weather, the program, planning and

meals all had a part in making the teachers' convention held here last Friday a decided success.

A new Elmer safety flag is to be purchased. Although the present flag has only been lowered once due to an accident, it has become very worn on the flagpole at the school.

Owing to a chance of policy by the Halton county health unit, the board authorized the nurse to stock a first aid kit.

Appointments were made to the public library board for three years, G. W. McKenzie, R. H. Armstrong and Mrs. A. Buchanan.

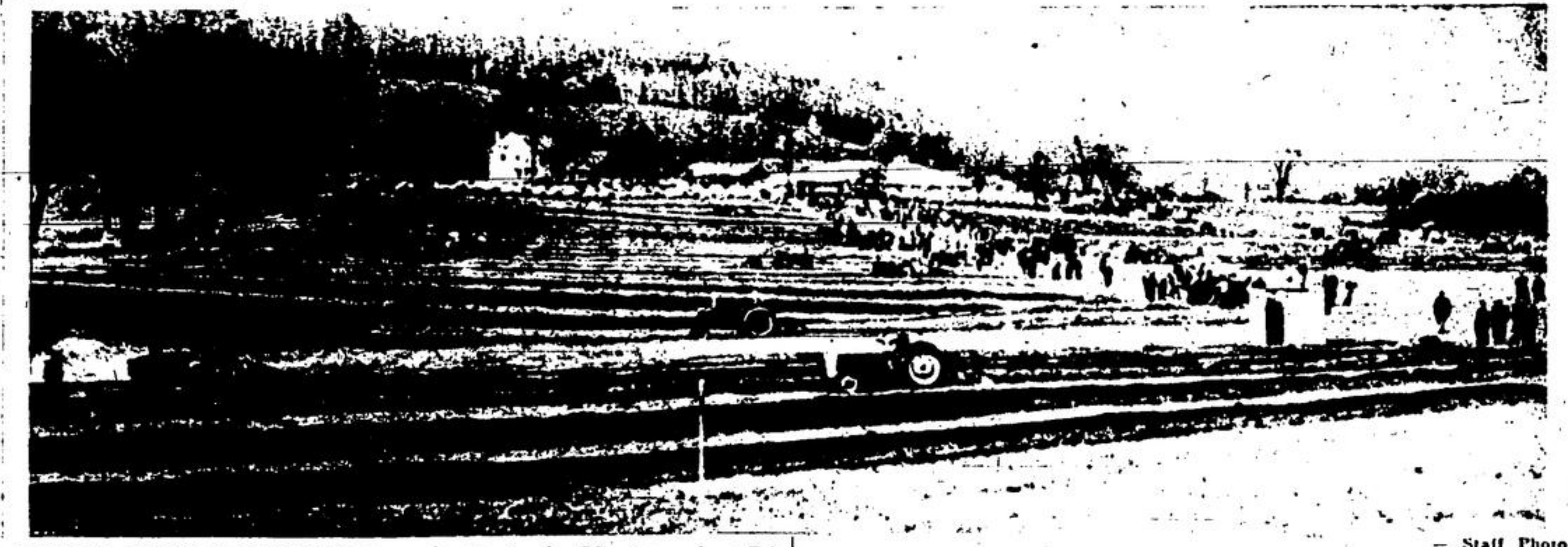
The application of Beardmore and Co. for the use of the auditorium for a series of Christmas party was approved by the board at the usual fee; the request of the high school for the auditorium for commencement this month was granted; the Citizens' Band was authorized to have the use of the auditorium for a series of Sunday evening band concerts.

Receipt of \$49 non-resident fees and \$40 for auditorium rental were reported. The financial statement of \$1,049.35 was presented and payment authorized.

## Passerby Sees Smoke Firemen Called Out

Acton firemen made a brief call late Friday afternoon at Neil's Garage Station where smoke had been noticed curling from the living quarters back of the station.

Damage was not extensive and water was not used. Cause of the fire is not known. There was no one in the building when the smoke was noticed by a passerby.



**HALTON COUNTY PLOWMEN** turned out nearly 50 strong last Friday for the annual plowing competition, this year held at the farm of J. J. Thistlewaite, Esquesing. In the picture above the staff camera has caught a wide-angle view of the match area with some 16 competitors on the field. To the rear rises Milton Mountain.

## Appoint Staffer Assessors Debate

David Dills was appointed a director of the Western Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association at a meeting of the group in Palmerston last Saturday. Also representing this paper were Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Dills, George Ellis of the Goderich Signal Star was elected president, succeeding Arthur Carr of the Palmerston Observer.

Tony Mendell of Strathville Review was elected vice-president. A. G. "Bud" Landsborough of the Grand Valley Star and Vidette was elected secretary and Willard Gardiner, of the Harrison Review, treasurer.

Other directors as well as Mr. Dills are Donald Southcott of the Exeter Times-Advocate and George Tatham of the Listowel Banner.

## Assessors Debate Adjustment Of Values

The town of Milton entertained 16 assessors from Halton County at a dinner held on Thursday of last week at the Milton Inn.

The meeting was mainly to discuss general business, had a lengthy discussion over land values arose. Some municipalities have adjusted their land values to the new rates, while others have not as yet done so, it was pointed out.

## Broken Ankle Is Only Injury In Four Accidents

Four minor accidents were reported this past week by the County Police.

Miss Shirley Heywood, a teacher at the Campbellville school, was taken to Milton Private Hospital to be treated for a broken right ankle after her car skidded on the loose gravel and hit a steep bank on the Guelph road near Brookville on Monday. Miss Heywood lives in Acton. She was treated by Dr. A. T. Hunter.

When a pick-up truck driven by George Easton collided with a horse in the thick fog on the highway near Georgetown, his truck went out of control and smashed into a hydro pole. Damage was small.

Two cars driven by Joseph Conroy of Orangeville and Herman Windmuller, of Milton collided at the Hornby intersection on October 27th, causing \$200 damage to Conroy's car and \$300 to Windmuller's vehicle.

When two cars attempted to cross a one-lane bridge at Stewarttown at the same time, Kenneth Harrison of Georgetown smashed into the east rail of the bridge, causing \$200 damage. The second car was driven by John Fraser of Georgetown. The incident occurred on Wednesday.

Acton Junior Farmers have started to practice hockey for this year's season, which begins in less than two weeks. There are several new players on the team this year. Games will be played in the recently reopened Milton arena.

## Calendar Salesmen Not Legion Endorsed

Reported in this district again are individuals selling "veterans' calendars," seeking sales to householders and businessmen.

The Acton branch of the Canadian Legion advises this office that these salesmen, veterans or not, are not endorsed by the Canadian Legion nor are the calendars they sell distributed by the Legion. The calendars are apparently bought from private printing firms and usually bear a crest which approximates the official British Empire Service League emblem.

## TCA Pilot Talks To So-ed Group

So-Ed sessions were held for the fourth week in the Y last Thursday evening when members heard TCA First Officer Frank Chohan tell of the extensive training and experience TCA pilots undergo in order to maintain peak condition and flight safety.

He told his audience of the rigorous pre-commissioning training future pilots must take, then of the intensive probationary and First Officer period in which examinations, flight checks and other tests constantly gauge his ability to become a Captain. Ewen as a Captain, the speaker said, TCA pilots continue to be examined and checked, all in the interests of passenger and craft safety.

Following the speaker, regular sessions in do-it-yourself, conducted by Philip Coddick, who demonstrated on woodworking, and in photography were held. A social period followed the classes.



**WEEDCUTTER AT WORK** on Fairy Lake is making a big difference in the appearance and cleanliness of the waters there. George Ingles and Burn Van Fleet are shown here operating the cutter mounted on a wide steel pontoon powered by a gasoline motor and driven by high wood paddles at the rear. At front are the knives, three-sided with the front knife under water, which cut the weeds below the surface. The severed water weeds come to the surface and drift to shore where they are piled.

## Monday and Tuesday at H. S. 115 at First Night School Sessions

Of about 130 on the roll 115 attended the first sessions of their night school classes at the high school on either Monday or Tuesday evening. Several were unable to attend who are registered.

Millinery and oil painting classes began on Monday evening. While members of the basic English class in a classroom at an angle watched between questions, the ladies of the millinery class tried on hat-forms under the guidance of their instructor, Mrs. Black of Georgetown. Acton artists welcomed back Miss Dorothy Stone, who has taught oil

painting here before.

A professional upholsterer from England, Clate Gosling, is teaching the upholstering class. Mrs. Webster and Mrs. Brown of Guelph, who taught sewing at night school here last year, have a class again. Mrs. Leyland is again teaching the aluminum tray etching. George Bowman has a class in leather carving. Mr. Wyatt of Georgetown is teaching ceramics.

Classes are being held on Mondays and Tuesdays through the winter season with a break in December.