

Celebrate Y.M.C.A. Week

Acton Y Comes of Age with Vigor

Acton, still the smallest town in the world to have its own Y.M.C.A. building, this year sees the association come of age here. Established in 1855, the Acton Y is this year 21.

This is Y.M.C.A. week across the continent. Here in Acton, a typical evening finds every room in the Y with its complement of members of all ages. The variety of activities which is encompassed in the building is almost endless.

From the basement comes the tapping of the youngsters, making boats and birdhouses; in one room the body building group is hoisting weights; there are flashes from the camera club and sounds of running feet in the gym, maybe the smell of a hot dinner from the kitchen. The hub of all the activity is in the small office where the present ever-planning general secretary, Bob Brayshaw, directs the many activities. One of his aims when he came to Acton from Kingston in September, 1954, was to have a totally active membership. This week, he was able to point with pride to figures in a book of statistics, about Y's all over the continent. Here, one out of every 16 persons in town is a member of the Y.M.C.A.—and that is an outstandingly high ratio compared to other towns and cities. Even better—the fact that only "one or two" of these members do not take part in any of the many clubs or activities!

4,242,819 Members
Acton Y.M.C.A. is just a small part of a world-wide organization. George Williams and a group of friends organized the first Y in England in 1844. Now there are 4,242,819 members all over the world. The Y made its first appearance in Canada in Montreal in 1851. Just two weeks later the Y.M.C.A. movement was founded in the United States.

In 1855 the World's Alliance was founded when representatives met in Paris—the first such meeting of a religious society anywhere. Delegates adopted as their bases John 17: 21—That they all may be one. The various associations—some with the majority of members non-Christian—were left to form their own purpose and in 1853 at a North American conference in Cleveland, it was stated officially that the Y.M.C.A. was "a fellowship of men and boys united in community loyalty to Jesus Christ for the purposes of forming Christian personality in a Christian society."

This, too, is the aim of the Y.M.C.A. here, founded 21 years ago following a bequest from the late J. A. Murray.

This Murray Memorial Y.M.C.A. joins associations in almost every corner of the world in displaying the red triangle whose sides symbolize the association's three concerns—spirit, mind and body.

Gra-Y Club Endeavor Hobby Show, Display

Two Gra-Y clubs are active for boys within the Acton Y and this is a big week for one of them. The Royal Star Gra-Y club is holding its Hobby Show on Friday evening. A display of gymnastics with a demonstration by an expert are being given in the gym during the evening.



Y SECRETARY Bob Brayshaw, named secretary here in the fall of 1954, is directing a program of increasing scope and participation. Per capita membership in this town is one of the highest.

FILM ON FILMS
A film on making movies was shown at the meeting of the Camera Club in the Y last week. A discussion followed on future programs.

CO-OPERATIVE TRIUMPH
GRIMSHAW, Alta. (CP)—This town of 800 persons, 330 miles north-west of Edmonton, officially opened a new \$50,000 arena. The structure, which can accommodate 2,000 persons, was built through public donations and by volunteer workmen.

Remodelling Room Y's Men's Project

The Y's Men's club, working under the guidance of Phil Caddick, have undertaken the remodelling of one of the rooms in the basement of the Y. Work includes concealing the overhead pipes. Materials are being supplied by the Ladies' Auxiliary.

Muckers Begin Floor Hockey With 8-2 Win

Four floor hockey teams started their schedule this week when the Muckers began the season with a very decisive 8-2 win over the Panthers. Goals edged a win over the Bombers 6-5.

Team members are—Muckers, Jim Lindsay captain, Pat Churchill, Paul Elliott, Don Lindsay, Danny Holmes. Panthers, Wayne Ridley captain, Don Price, Bob Coxe, Don Emmerston, Gary Scott. Goats, Bruce Andrews, captain, Ray Pasma, Brian McCristall, Peter Lawson, Frank Mariscak. Bombers, Bill Greer captain, Bill Churchill, Wayne Wilson, Don Cook.

Swimmers' Goal School Creek, Lake Ontario

Racing across the school creek is the project for the Junior girls' gym class at the Y. This cold weather?

Well, the contest, swimming and all, is to be held inside the Y. The girls have charted their course across the creek on cardboard and they'll be working their way across by means of points for team attendance, new skills, games, new members and team projects for world service.

The new competition begins this week for the girls eight, nine and 10 years of age. There are about 20 of them, but if the swim proves as popular as the Junior boys' marathon, their numbers may be much higher before a winner reaches the other side.

The Junior boys have been stroking weekly towards the other side of Lake Ontario. Their original group of 20 is now up to 40. The M's are well out in the middle of the lake, followed by the C's and, very close behind, the Y's. There is plenty of boisterous enthusiasm when these groups dive into their week's program.

Secretary of National Council Is Speaker at Y Church Service

The people of Acton and its Y.M.C.A. were challenged to do constructive work in making today's youth aware of the implications of the atomic age, the cold war and economic prosperity in which we are living. This charge was given to a congregation of about 250 when Dr. R.S. Hosking, D.D., the general secretary of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A., was guest speaker for the second annual Y.M.C.A. service here. His address, given in Knox church Sunday evening, was entitled Youth and Today's World.

The service was conducted by Rev. R. H. Armstrong. Rev. Gordon Adams led in prayer. Bob Brayshaw, general secretary of the Y, read the scripture. The choir of the Christian Reformed church, which holds its services in the Y each Sunday, sang three anthems, one of them in Dutch.

A reception honoring Dr. Hosking was held in the church following the service. Members of the Y Ladies' Auxiliary catered.

The Y.M.C.A. has always co-operated with the churches in Acton, arranging the inter-church softball league, providing leadership in the Vacation church school, providing booklets for the Y.M.C.A. Week of Prayer and in association with the Ministerial Association.

Catering, Nursery Auxiliary Activities

Main task for the active Y Ladies' Auxiliary this week was the catering for the leaders' corps dinner on Tuesday. And, of course, they are the group that runs the very popular nursery school in the Y three mornings each week. Another project is serving Gra-Y club dinners. The group of about 20 interested ladies meets every month.

Social security and welfare takes between 25 and 30 cents of every tax dollar.



BASKETBALL PLAYERS at Acton Y reach high to recover a near miss off the ring. This sport, like the many others which make up the Y's energetic program, provides exercise, team play and a healthy way to let off steam. Athletic programs are not only designed for younger Y members, but for adults as well.

Y Directors

Ken Knox is the president of the Y Board this year. Other board members are: vice-president, G. W. McKenzie; secretary, Mrs. J. Hurst; treasurer, Mrs. Janet Rogers; publicity, Phil Caddick; finance chairman, Bill Wilson; building, Jack Ridley; leadership, Elmer Smith.

Over 300

The number of active groups in the Y.M.C.A. this year is almost double that of last year. There are 36 classes and clubs. Enrolment in all these groups is 647. Total membership is 305.

Four Basketball Games Saturday

In two different cities, four Acton basketball teams squared off with stiff opposition on Saturday. Each game was close and the best games the locals have played yet this season. Trained on a smaller court, they are apparently adjusting to the difference in away games as scores were excitingly close.

Two Acton-Kitchener encounters started off Y week in Kitchener. In the morning, Acton bantams—all under 14—paced the city team to emerge triumphant after two overtime sessions. The score was 10-10 at the end of the first half, and then 20-20 at the end of regulation time. Overtime ended: score 22-22! Three minutes more overtime: score Acton 26, Kitchener 22.

Top scorer in the action packed game was Don Lindsay with 10 points. Stewart McDonald took eight and Peter Lawson six. Don Price got the final basket of the match.

The victors had a swim, played table tennis and bowled during the day as they received membership privileges for the visit.

In the afternoon, the Juveniles started strongly to make an excellent 8-7 score at the end of the first quarter and 25-13 at half time. Kitchener came back in the last half, however, to edge out the locals by a mere three points, 43-40. Dropping most baskets for Acton were Garry Dawkins with 16 points, Joo Jan with 14 and Wayne Currie with eight.

Saturday evening, two more matches were played in Guelph. The Midgets dropped a close game 46-38 despite outstanding play by Bruce Andrews, Frank Mariscak and Wayne Ridley.

The senior encounter also went to the home team, but only by five baskets. Acton lost 50-40. Top scorers were Ron Campbell with 16 points and Cyril Buchanan with 10.

Next week the Midgets and Juveniles meet the Toronto West End Y teams in the Y there.

Swim Instruction Begins This Week

For the first time this year, Y's Men's Day is being held in conjunction with Y Week and the local club is holding a Past Members' Night tonight. The speaker is bringing models and slides on the St. Lawrence Seaway.

One of the main annual projects of the club of 40 members is the swimming instruction given local boys and girls each week in Guelph. The girls—35 of them—had their first swim last Friday. The group will be divided into two, attending Wednesday as well as Friday, due to the high enrolment. About 25 boys swim Mondays.

1935 ACTON Y.M.C.A. 1956

Y.M.C.A. WEEK

JAN. 22 - JAN. 29

THIS YEAR THE ACTON Y.M.C.A. COMES OF AGE AND THE NEW PROGRAM SHOWS A LIVELY MATURITY

- YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACTIVITIES**
- GYM CLASSES
 - GRA-Y CLUBS
 - BASKETBALL TEAMS
 - FLOOR HOCKEY LEAGUE
 - BOXING AND WRESTLING
 - ART CLASSES
 - WOODWORK
 - MODELLING
 - BADMINTON
 - CHECKER CLUB
 - TRACK CLUB
 - STAMP CLUB
 - LEADERS' CORPS
 - NURSERY SCHOOL
 - DAY CAMPS



THE Y.M.C.A. ... a world-wide brotherhood for development of Christian personality and the building of a Christian Society.
THE Y.M.C.A. seeks to promote the physical, mental and spiritual welfare of its members and constituents.
THE Y.M.C.A. EMPHASIZES: Reverence for God; respect for Personality; responsibility for the common good; the application of the Golden Rule.

- ADULT Y PROGRAM**
- BOWLING LEAGUE FOR WOMEN
 - LADIES' AUXILIARY
 - BASKETBALL
 - SO-ED CLUB
 - MODEL RAILWAY CLUB
 - BODY BUILDING
 - GYM CLASSES FOR MEN AND WOMEN
 - BADMINTON
 - Y'S MEN'S CLUB
 - VOLLEYBALL
 - CAMERA CLUB
 - LEADERS' FELLOWSHIP

IN ACTON: 21 YEARS OF SERVICE to the Youth and Adults of this Community

IN THE WORLD: 112 YEARS OF SERVICE to Christian Minds, Spirits and Bodies of All Races

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