

The Acton Free Press.

Eighty-First Year.—No. 33.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd, 1956

Light Pages Seven Cents.



PNEUMATIC DRILLS JAB into the frozen surface of Wallace Street as efforts were intensified yesterday to locate the broken water main, eventually pinpointed near the Mill St. corner, which had cut off water to Warren Grove residents for a day and a half before the auxiliary well filled empty lines. Background centre are P.U.C. Chairman F. Oakes, and A. Duby supervising the search.

Main Breaks at Corner Auxiliary Well Provides Water in Grove

Problems of Mental Illnesses Told Club

Dr. Robert Buchner, addressed Acton Rotarians on mental health at the club's regular meeting Tuesday evening.

In stressing the importance of taxpayers of the problem of treating the mentally sick, the speaker pointed out there are as many people in mental hospitals as there are patients in all other hospitals for all other types of illnesses. "Mental difficulties affect a lot of people for a long time," he emphasized, "pointing out the cost of treatment."

The speaker praised the system used in Britain where patients went voluntarily to mental hospitals realizing they were disturbed, rather than waiting until later when treatment becomes imperative. He also dealt with the use of new drugs, in certain types of mental illnesses.

The appreciation of the club was expressed by Dr. H. Leib to the speaker.

Members concluded their dinner meeting with the preparation of 2,000 envelopes containing Easter Seals for the annual campaign.

100 Women Join In World Prayer

The World Day of Prayer service for 1956 was held last Friday afternoon in Knox Presbyterian church with over 100 women of the town and district in attendance.

Mrs. James Ingles, Mrs. A. Buchman, Mrs. Charles Landsborough, Mrs. Harold Force, Mrs. R. Greenboer, Mrs. Reid, Mrs. Cook and Mrs. H. F. Holmes, representing the Presbyterian, Baptist, United Christian Reformed, Pentecostal Assembly and Anglican churches respectively, took part in this world-wide service.

Car Flips on Roof Near Town Line

Two accidents were reported by Acton police over the week-end. No serious injuries were caused any of those involved.

Late Friday night a car driven by Frank Brown, Milton, ran off North Main Street, near the town line, and turned over in the ditch. About \$350 damage was caused.

Saturday morning two cars collided at Queen and Young Streets and a total of \$800 damage was caused the two vehicles. Drivers were Nicholas Betzler, Kitchener, and Glen Stringer, Milton. Slippery roads were blamed for the mishap.

Three Acton Men In Brief-Court Sitting

Three local men appeared in a brief sitting of Magistrate's Court here Wednesday afternoon.

One man was charged and convicted with impaired driving and fined \$50 plus \$20 costs. His license was also suspended for three months.

A charge of drunkenness was dismissed against another Acton man while a third, charged with driving while license was under suspension, was remanded.



Small Machining Industry Starts Operations Here

Acton's newest industry, small but unique in this district, is open for business this week with three owner-partners who are also the firm's employees.

Acton Precision Engineering, specializing in tool and die making and general machining, has set up shop on Mill St. west and already is handling orders that keep a man working day and night.

Sam Brunelle, Will Smith and Fred Ganley are staff and management with long-range plans for the venture. In time, they consider, there will be a healthy market for Canadian-made precision machine parts that are now bought by Canadian industrialists in the States.

Will Smith and Fred Ganley, both machine engineers, are comparative newcomers to Canada. Mr. Smith is a native of Birmingham, England, while Mr. Ganley is a fellow countryman from Coventry. Sam Brunelle, an Acton native, is also manager of the Station Hotel.

Two members of the partnership have had long experience in precision machining. Will Smith worked in Montreal for three years after coming from England, while Fred Ganley has been here about four years.

All the partners are optimistic about the need for their type of service in this district, especially in view of the area's growing industrialization.

And at the rate they've been working since starting operation, their optimism doesn't seem misplaced.

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Approximately two and a half hours of discussion ranged over the problem of dog catching, the fines levied for offenses, the rabies scare, and the possibility of dog control being enacted for all municipalities through the County Council.

H. Merry and Inspector Alan MacNab, representing the Oakville and District Humane Society, outlined the growth of their organization from simply a Humane Society assisting Oakville and Trafalgar with dog control as well as Milton.

Members of the Milton, Acton and Georgetown Boards emphasized the need for more rigid dog control and the difficulties involved unless a pound is available for the detention of stray dogs picked up.

Mr. Merry said the Society's inspector could either issue a fine to the offender or take a dog to the pound where the owner would have to pay \$1 a day for each dog until it was impounded. Owners have three days in which to claim a dog. After that time it becomes the property of the society for sale or disposal, the representatives pointed out.

Discussing the recent rabies scare, a disease that affects dogs and can make their bite fatal to humans, the Inspector noted few dogs are now under observation. It was pointed out rabies is a contagious disease with dogs and the bite of an infected dog can sometimes be prevented from being fatal but may leave the human victim paralyzed for life.

Members further discussed that existing by-laws did not call for dogs to be tied but they must be under control. Reeve Stan Allen,

Order 'No Vote' on Maria Street Bridge Debenture

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Lengthy Reports

This week the Free Press carries complete reports of two important official hearings held here this week.

Both the natural gas franchise hearing and the Maria Street bridge hearing start on the front page of this issue, but due to their length are carried over to inside pages. Carry over for the gas hearing story is on Page Three for the bridge hearing story on Page Four.

Both hearings were covered and the reports written by staff reporters.

Responsibility of Town Verified In Ruling of Municipal Board Here

Acton ratepayers will not vote on the town's \$15,000 share of an estimated \$75,000 cost for a new Maria Street bridge. It was ruled Tuesday by the Ontario Municipal Board, as the municipality's disputed claim to bridge responsibility was conclusively established.

The ruling of the Board, in the face of testimony and evidence presented, confirms the position taken by 1954 council and the Beardmore Board of 1951 that the bridge should be maintained by the town and replaced by the town in accord with past records and present policy.

There had been talks and public sessions of opposition before the hearing Tuesday, when the hearing opened only two more registered opposition in the face of weighty and apparently to the Board conclusive evidence that the bridge is the town's charge.

J. D. Lucas, special counsel for the town, opened his case before the Municipal Board's R. Kennedy and D. Jameson. He described the deplorable state of the bridge, told of the conditional approvals from the Department of Highways for payment of an 80 per cent grant toward its construction and informed there were some 53 homes, with 200 people, served by the bridge.

Games Highlight 'Booster Night'

Acton Legion Minor Sports Association reports a successful night of the annual booster night, held last Friday night in the arena.

Five half-hour games were highlights of the night's program. The games were played between teams of the minor league groups and, as exhibition contests, displayed plenty of spirit and effort on the part of the young pucksters.

Added to the program was a figure skating exhibition by Lorraine Fairall of the Hamilton Skating Club. Two other club skaters scheduled to appear arrived, but too late after being held up by car trouble.

Three bonds were awarded to hockey ticket holders during the evening. Winners were \$100, \$100 and \$100, Georgetown sold by W. Allen, Acton, who gets a \$50 bond, \$30 from Cote, Guelph, \$50, Mrs. Bob Black Acton.

M.O.H. Speaks To H. & S. Assoc.

A successful and interesting meeting of the Acton Home and School Association was held in the public school auditorium Monday evening.

Dr. A. Hull of the Halton County Health Unit was guest speaker of the evening and delivered an instructive talk on immunity, followed by an open question and answer period which gave parents an opportunity to learn many medical facts.

Mrs. Ward Bruce entertained with harmonious readings and Frances G. McKenzie spoke on "Acceleration." This was welcome information for parents since the acceleration program has just been completed at the school. Mr. McKenzie also answered many questions on the subject.

Mrs. J. Black's room won the picture with 14 points present. The total attendance was 90. Coffee was served.

Elmira Takes Two From Acton Jrs. In Hockey Finals

Elmira blasted home four goals in the final period to round out a 2-1 victory over Acton Wednesday night when the home team journeyed to the winner's camp for the second game of their playoff series.

Last night's lone goal for the local squad came in the first period from the stick of Ted Footitt. Elmira fired two in the first and another in the second to leave the contest fairly even up to the final frame. The game was a cleanly played match with few minor penalties called.

Acton Juniors played hard but were not with hard luck here Tuesday night when Elmira moved into town for the first game of the best-of-five league playoff round. The local Junior D squad were checked of a win by goal-mouth misfortune as their opponents scratched a 2-1 win.

John Cunningham fired the lone Acton goal but at least six other shots on goal were bound had it not been for goal posts or open side misses. The Acton squad forced the play all night. Elmira's counters came in the first and third periods. Only two penalties, all minors, were handed out to each team in the clean, fast contest.

A postponed encounter with the same squad here Saturday night saw Acton meet defeat again at the hands of Elmira. This game wound up the league schedule with Elmira on top, Acton next, Georgetown and Hamilton trailing.

Saturday's game, ending 6-3 for Elmira, was fairly even all except for a disastrous middle frame for the hosts. Here Elmira pumped in four goals without dispute. Ron Sinclear, Ron Shannon and Wayne Arbut did the scoring for Acton.

United Suburban Case Bids Strong to Win

The question of whether Tony Seenuck's Anthony Gas & Oil Explorations Ltd. or the powerful United Suburban Gas Co. Ltd. gets the Fuel Board's nod to distribute natural gas to Acton, Milton and Georgetown hangs officially unanswered this week, but after Monday's day-long sitting of the Board most observers and officials indicate the Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity will likely go to United Suburban.

The case for United Suburban lasted from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and decision was reserved. The case for Anthony Gas met a dead end. This came late in the afternoon when, after a plea by the Acton company's lawyer for a two months' postponement was denied, the Fuel Board disclosed information which would indicate Anthony Gas has no hope of getting natural gas supplies from Consumers' Gas Co. Ltd., to bring drilled-reservoir strength where a distribution system could be set up.

Consumers' Gas already holding an option with United Suburban for a gas supply contract into North Halton, will enter into no other agreement with any other company to serve this area. This statement was made by Fuel Board Chairman A. R. Crozier and borne out in the United Suburban contract exhibited at Monday's hearing.

C. G. Charron, solicitor for Anthony Gas, made an impassioned but futile plea for a postponement of his company's hearing. He said his company did not have "the advantage of a battery of experts" to assist in the considerable work preparatory for financing.

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Remand Two Charged With Garage Theft

William Dron and Thomas Oakley, both of Acton, charged with the theft of \$270 from Thompson Motors on February 13, appeared in court in Milton Wednesday afternoon. Their case was remanded for another week at the request of the Crown attorney.

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Rising Hydro Bills Get Attention from P. U. C.

Unreasonably large increases in the majority of Acton hydro continues to be a complaint. Members of the P. U. C. office, Secretary J. McGeechie, told Commission members this week.

Since the 60 cycle changeover, domestic rates have generally risen in each successive billing, members were told, and the office staff is finding it difficult to explain the reasons to annoyed consumers.

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THE MARIA BRIDGE question, whether a vote should be required to endorse the town's spending some \$15,000 as its share of reconstruction was answered this week as the Municipal Board ruled a vote was not necessary. The ruling lends implication that the town may rightly claim responsibility for the bridge. Recently the aged structure was put off limits to trucks as a safety measure.