

The Acton Free Press.

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Ten Pages—Seven Cents.

Glassy Roads, Stormy Weather Cause Many Highway Accidents

Motorists in Acton last Friday night slid and skidded in their vehicles as a sheath of glassy ice covered town roads. Over the week-end snow and wind made driving nearly as difficult in town as on the highways.

Although local police report no serious accidents here during the stormy week-end, district police reported several costly accidents outside town on No. 7 highway. In one mishap, two persons were injured.

Saturday a rear-end collision a half mile outside the east limits caused a total of \$350 damage to two cars involved. The cars were driven by James Gibb of Toronto and John Ware of Glen Williams. Slippery roads were partly blamed.

Also on Saturday, a car driven by Joseph Suetik of New Jersey, U.S.A., skidded on the ice on Highway No. 7 about a mile west of Crewson's Corners and smashed into a tree. Although Suetik was uninjured, damage to the car was estimated by investigating officer Howard Gunn at \$400.

Early Sunday morning, Eugene Villeneuve, R.R. 4, Acton, told police constable H. Gunn he was blinded by the driving snow when questioned following an accident a mile west of Acton. Villeneuve's car was involved in a sideswipe collision with a car driven by William Leslie, Rockwood. Leslie was driving west on the highway when the accident occurred.

Sunday afternoon, two ladies were rushed to Guelph General Hospital by ambulance following an accident near McCullough's Corners west of Georgetown on No. 7 highway.

A car driven by Alison Pearson, Toronto, travelling east, skidded on the ice and crashed into a tree. The car was damaged to the extent of \$500.

Miss Pearson suffered lacerations and abrasions to her forehead and left knee. A passenger in the car, Muriel Mason, Toronto, received deep forehead lacerations, fractured ribs and is suffering from shock. They were treated at the scene of the accident by Dr. McIntosh of Georgetown.

Acton Athletes In C.A.A.U. Meet

Three local athletes will carry Acton's name to Montreal later this month when the Canadian Amateur Athletic Union holds its 10th annual indoor championship meet.

From Acton Y Frank Cooper, Emerson Baxter and Frank Marisack will enter track events against runners from across Canada. Frank Cooper is entered in the 50 yard open dash, the juvenile 50 yard and the 500 yard runs. Frank Marisack will run in the 500 yard midge event, while Emerson Baxter is slated to run in the 50 yard juvenile and 500 yard events.

The three local entrants, winners of several town and district track honors, have been training heavily for the Montreal meet.

Breath From South Rouses February Blast

Right in the midst of that week-end February blizzard, a breath from the south blew in the back door at the home of Mrs. Dills and the editor and left a bushel basket of Florida oranges and grapefruit. Examination of the contents revealed a card noting they were a gift from ex-reeve Hartley and Mrs. Harrison who are wintering in St. Petersburg, Florida, where the February breezes are balmy and it's summer time in winter time.

It's been most appreciated in our household. If we ever have enough funds left after we spend January in the south, we'll know exactly what to send our friends in the north in mid-February.

United Suburban Awarded Gas Rights Acton Company Signs Supply Contract

The United Suburban Gas Co. Ltd. was granted a certificate of public convenience and necessity Monday by the Ontario Fuel Board. The act affirms this Hamilton firm's rights to natural gas distribution in Acton, Milton and Georgetown.

Negotiations, submissions to councils, rival clashes of two other companies, franchise framing and by-law hearings—all started months ago on the sometimes disputed road to distribution rights for this area. One company, the Halton Natural Gas Co., fell off the course toward the end, with the Acton's Anthony Gas and Oil Exploration stayed in the race to the finish.

Contract for Gas Purchase. United Suburban's franchise rights were not confirmed until a gas purchase contract was completed with Anthony Gas and Oil. A conference Saturday between officials of the two companies was

Court Allows Change In Theft Information

A change was made this week in information pertaining to a charge laid by Acton Provincial Police against William Dron and Thomas Oakley, reducing the amount of money they are jointly charged with stealing to \$360.

They were originally charged with the theft of \$370 from Thompson Motors, but at the request of Crown Attorney Dingle, the amount was changed in magistrate's court in Milton Wednesday afternoon to \$360.

The pair appeared before Magistrate Langdon, following two separate remands of their case for one week each. Dron asked for a remand of another week. Magistrate Langdon asked Dron if he had secured counsel to which Dron answered in the negative. When Oakley appeared before the magistrate, he agreed to a remand until March 7.

Oakley has been released on bail, but Dron is being held in custody because he could not raise the necessary bail.

Acton Falls For Third, Last Time In Junior Hockey

Acton Juniors were skated out of the O.H.A. Junior D league play-offs Monday night by a sharp shooting Elmira crew. The 6-5 win was three straight for Elmira in the best-of-five series.

The game, postponed from last week, saw rousing good hockey for the year's Junior finale. Ted Fottitt scored four of Acton's five goals, but Elmira had one more.

There were few penalties in Monday night's fast action. Fottitt scored his first in the opening period and Elmira replied with two before the bell sounded. Wayne Hilson tied it up early in the second frame, then Fottitt went on his scoring spree to sink three unanswered goals.

Acton skated back on for the third period in good spirits and on top of a 3-3 count. But a third-period penalty, ironically to Fottitt, started Elmira on a resolute offensive. The visitors rapped in three goals and the game to boot.

In the two games last week, Acton extended Elmira before losing 2-1 in the home game. Two nights later, in the second bout, of the series in Elmira, Acton went down hard, 7-1.

Friends Give Party For Mrs. A. T. Brown

About 50 friends, relatives and former neighbors of Mrs. A. T. Brown, met in the classroom of Acton United Church Sunday afternoon to renew friendships, to reminisce and to offer birthday greetings to Mrs. Brown.

All enjoyed a brief program of songs by Mrs. A. W. Fosbury and Mrs. Wm. Maxwell and a duet by Mrs. Veldhuis and Miss Dorothy Simmons, with Miss Olive Lampard as accompanist.

Rev. C. L. Poole, a former minister with Rev. Gordon Adams, spoke of the fine contribution Mrs. and Mrs. Brown had made to the life of Acton through their personal influence and in the hospitality of their home.

Among those who attended from out of town were Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maxwell and Ruth Anne, Misses Olive, Grace Lampard, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Gardiner, all of Guelph; Mrs. A. W. Fosbury of Queenville and Miss Bertha Brown of Toronto.

Miss M. Z. Bennett presided over an attractive tea table. Lunch included a tastefully decorated birthday cake.

March's Lamb Lits Today But 30 Hence Will the Lion Play?

March, it appears this morning, is favored with a lambish debut. That is, according to the weather geese, fine for now, but bodes no good for when March marches out.

Temperature in the mid-30's and sunshine gamely sifting through grey-blue skies identify the lamb-like quality of March's entrance today. It will remain, be seen in 30 days hence, this gentle entry is shocked into forgetfulness by a blustery, stormy lion-like exit.

In the meantime, it's March 1. And March is the month with spring's first day, melting snow, more sun and warmer winds, all the winds and blustery gusts.

Crash Kills Youth Friends Not Hurt

Constable Howard Gunn stated Wednesday that an inquest is "probable" into the death of William Munroe, 20, of Toronto, who was instantly killed in a highway crash early Sunday morning at Norval.

Munroe, William Pendergast, and the driver of the car, Reginald Northcott, were returning home to Toronto after a Saturday night dance in Georgetown when the accident occurred. Neither Pendergast nor Northcott received any injuries.

The car was proceeding down the long hill on the west side of Norval, skidded to the right to avoid a car which was having difficulty coming up the steep grade, and plunged into a hydro pole. Munroe, who was sitting on the right side of the car, was thrown across the car and wedged between the steering wheel and the windshield after the car jolted over a deep ditch and slammed into the pole.

Northcott stated later that after swerving to the right side of the road to miss the other car, he tried to get back into his lane, but the car slid on the ice, turned around, and started down the hill backwards.

They were treated at the scene by Dr. McIntosh of Georgetown and County Coroner Dr. J. Chamberlain.

Recreation Here Concerns Rotary

Acton minor sports association members were guests of the local Rotary Club Tuesday evening when Lloyd Minchner, a director of the province's community programs and recreation branch, spoke of the nature and need for recreation.

The speaker, after describing recreation's basic appeal and utility, went on to develop what a public program can offer the citizens of this community. The value of public sponsored and supported programs, in diversity, permanency, range of appeal and weight of assistance and guidance, was emphasized by Mr. Minchner.

In connection with the speaker's topic, the Club was informed by Art Padbury of the present state of a proposed Parks Board for Acton and the necessity of Council holding a public vote to set up the commission.

The speaker was introduced by Fred Wright and thanked by J. Goy. Members of the minor sports association present were George Hollinger, A. Irwin and Don Bexton.

Clothes Burn In Fire Sunday at Crescent

Clothing was burned and some damage caused to a closet and bedroom in the home of Joe Massey, Guelph St., Sunday afternoon when a fire answered a call there.

Cause of the blaze, brought under control before more extensive damage occurred, is not known. The call was rung in about 3:30 p.m.

Council Will Try Once More to Settle Finally the Durable 'Brankiewicz Case'

Lakeview Road Expropriation Is Still Contentious

Still another attempt will be made to settle the town's protracted 'Brankiewicz Case', reborn this week as such a thorn "in the flesh" of 1956 council as it was for last year's council. The disputed road course into Lakeview subdivision has run hot and cold for over a year toward agreement, but still eludes settlement.

Monday night council road set another installment into this serialized story. The Lakeview subdivision contractors disagreed a house near the proposed road course entrance could be safely moved. The house is hoped to be moved to strengthen the road allowance and meet Tom Brankiewicz's objections.

Council still contends the house can be moved. The contractors suggest the road course disagreement be settled first, then the house worried over. Council views one contingent on the other, but agreed to tackle the Brankiewicz case again.

Deposit Money in Court. Solicitor C. F. Leathland suggested Council deposit money in the court to lighten the burden of the expropriation action pending on part of the road course land. Council saw this might bring the case to a head, but once again proposed to "try again" to settle with Mr. Brankiewicz out of court. Councillors Cook and Brunelle and Mayor Tyler volunteered to meet Mr. Brankiewicz again.

Engineer Frank Palleon earlier outlined proposed changes in the Lakeview sewer line on Elizabeth Drive which would provide cellars drains for a number of houses. The change would involve installation of a pumping manhole. W. Coon and G. A. Dills, Acton members of the North Halton High School District Board, sought council approval for the town's share (about \$700 a year extra) for a \$175,000 Georgetown high school addition. The proposed eight room structure was quickly given approval by motion.

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Council's decision passed out to each member \$6. This is from two natural gas companies who agreed to bear the usual session cost per member when a special meeting was called at the companies' request.

Pass New Hours by-law. Council approved a 50 per cent share in purchase of a \$24 steel chest to line the town office safe. It was pointed out the chest will reduce the burglary insurance premium from \$445 to \$220. Premium is to be levied every three years.

Apparently the long-sought new hours by-law for local merchants has been talked right out. The new by-law changing Saturday night opening to Friday night—was given a third reading and passed without comment. New hours became effective March 22.

Councillor G. Barbeau reported cost to partition off the new room added to the town office, also to cover some changes in the present office, is about \$550. The work is being done.

Approval for payment of a \$30 grader repair account was given, subject to the town foreman's clearance on the work. Solicitor Leathland reviewed proceedings to obtain settlement of annexation compensation with Esqueping township. It was noted the township will not credit Acton with any future government grants on school debt, while the town maintains such credit should be allowed.

One Point Unsettled. It was questioned if the township understood this clause in the unsigned agreement form. Members agreed to meet the township council to discuss this one outstanding point.

Mayor Tyler reported estimates are being worked out on plans as yet undisclosed as to source to increase the town's water supply.

Clerk McClellan read a quotation from the Galt Knitting Co. on used fire hose for sale also a letter from the Shell Oil Co. urging support of the current safety campaign. The January police report was read and a folder filed on civil defense.

Four assessment adjustments were made by Court of Appeal, T. R. Balleptine and Hinton's Department Store were granted business concessions. J. Jeffery and C. Ockenden were granted write-off on that part of property assessment erroneously charged.

The Department of Highways informed council it could not permit parking a cross-walk on No. 7 highway near Glenora, for a school crossing unless the town provides a guard.

Infestation of Rats. Council gave reading to a \$37,000 watermain debt by-law for the Lakeview subdivision. The Halton County Health Unit, called to investigate an infestation

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THE WHITE GYPSY, alive with dancing, singing and drama, packed the public school auditorium last night on the operetta's first night. Tonight indicates a second sellout for the popular program. Above, our smiling gypsies in the cast are Barbara Ware and Brenda Crapps with Paul McGeechie and Keith Mattocks. Brilliant costumes and scenery added to the operetta's success.

Public School's Young Performers Win Applause in the White Gypsy

Acton Public School's older pupils delighted a crowded auditorium last night (Wednesday) with a well formed operetta, "The White Gypsy," while younger pupils staged dances and songs that caught auditorium-wide appreciation and applause.

Tonight the youthful performers will play to a second packed house. Over 400 tickets were sold for each performance. Many of the roles in the operetta will be enacted by different pupils for the Thursday presentation.

The White Gypsy, sprinkled with songs, dances and colorful costumes, tells how a band of gypsies regain their imprisoned chief through trials and tribulations with an exiled king, his scheming brother and how the

princess, the "white" gypsy, comes to the camp and eventually is the means of the gypsies' good fortune. Lesley Ann Duby is the princess, the White Gypsy, while Keith Andrews is Kom, a gypsy prince. Elizabeth Force enacts Jola, Kom's slippery-fingered mother, Romany Rose, Kom's wise old grandmother, is Katherine Kirkness. The imprisoned chief is Paul McGeechie.

The exiled king is played by Peter Newton and Danny Holmes carries off the part of Kink, the usurper of the throne.

Spies, Soldiers and Gyros. Gunn, a dancing maiden, is Robina Sagaski. Zingan, Kom's companion, is Bob Duby while another companion is played by Wayne Wilson. Two spook cats are Ralph Tripp

and James Ironsides. Spies are Cornelius Van de Polder and Peter Marks. Soldiers are Brian McCristall and Jon Hurst.

Attendants, soldiers, dancers and Gyros are: Edward van Hocklein, Murray Smith, Jeffrey Morris, Uppie Pasma, Joe Massey, John Rice, Brenda Crapps, Keith Mattocks, Ann Dantrith, Jo-Ann Force, Mary Hunter, Ruth Spilvogel, Joan Courtney, Marjorie Jank, Arnold Phee, Bob Hinton, Russell Murray and Terry Barr.

Playing in tonight's performance are: Barbara Ware (Jola), Raymond Pasma (Chief), Doug Ruddick (Zingan), Bill Dawkins (Kink), Wayne Bowen and Glenn Barr (Accomplices), and Malcolm Callan and Dennis Gibbons as Gyros.

The operetta was directed by Mr. Stratton and D. Davidson. Miss E. Goodwin led the singers and music was played by Miss K. Laughlin. Mrs. E. Wensley coached the dancers.

Mrs. W. Wolfe with a committee from the Home and School Association made the costumes, while make-up for the performers was applied by R. R. Parker, B. Shoemaker and Mrs. Durnham.

Junior Pupils Perform. In the opening numbers by junior pupils, Mrs. K. Alger and Miss Laughlin directed the kindergarten youngsters in three rhythm band selections.

The "Teddy Bears' Picnic" performance by Grade 1 pupils, was directed by Mrs. G. Reed, Mrs. J. Gamble and Miss D. Coles.

Singing games and rounds were presented by Grade 2 pupils under the direction of Mrs. J. Black, Mrs. H. Little, Mrs. M. Simpson and Miss E. Jennings.

A square dance, the Texas Star, and the Virginia Reel was danced by pupils directed by Miss D. Foller and Mrs. S. Turner. G. Fountain accompanied the dancers with violin, while Mrs. Turner played piano.

Before last night's curtain rose, Principal C. W. McKenzie welcomed the capacity audience and expressed appreciation for the many forms of support given the pupils and teachers in preparing the annual presentation.

Winn \$134, Richest Treasure Chest Draw

The biggest winning yet in Acton merchants' weekly treasure chest draw came Saturday to a lucky local woman who happened to be at the right place when her name was called.

Mrs. Gordon Moore took home \$134. Her name was on a 30 per cent coupon drawn from the drum at the Post Office corner where crowds continue to grow every Saturday as the treasure chest grows in value.

Acton Music Pupils Win Honors In Exams

In recent examinations by the Royal Conservatory of Music in Guelph, Acton music pupils passed with honors in various grades. Following is a partial list:

Grade 1 piano, Mary Kobylka, Steven Wolfe, Paul Wolfe; grade 2 piano, Ruth Langsborough; grade 3 piano, Ella Jany; grade 4 piano, Katherine Kirkness, Peter Wolfe.