

The Acton Free Press.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, MARCH 22nd, 1956

Ten Pages—Seven Cents.

Eighty-First Year—No. 37.

P.U.C. Puts Water, Sewage In Separate Departments

Division of the town's waterworks and sewage system responsibilities into two separate departments was announced at a meeting last week of the Public Utilities Commission.

Under the new arrangement, effective this Monday, J. Lambert will supervise the waterworks department, while A. Doby will take charge of the sewage system and disposal plant.

Decision to split the department was first made at a special meeting of the P.U.C. earlier last week.

Chairman F. Oakes, who considered there were many kinks to be ironed out in the new arrangement, explained that the Commission thought the division a "good move." He said A. Doby's salary had been raised to \$3,700.

Would Interchange Services

Waterworks superintendent J. Lambert asked if it was intended to hire any more help or how the division of personnel would go. The chairman replied that in cases of emergencies, in either department, the two superintendents would interchange their services. He also indicated there was thought of hiring a third man, who would work between the waterworks and sewage departments.

Exchange of tools and other equipment for each department was discussed. It was noted there would be one truck each for the

Tax Rate Drops Nine Mills in '56 Growth Last Year Seen as Cause

Nine-Mill Reduction Made Possible By \$395,505 Added Assessment

Sunny Skies Steal Springtime Scenes Sends Snow Slushy

Seasonably speaking, Wednesday was the first day of spring although the sun moved into Aries Tuesday a little ahead of time to make that day officially the first of the green season.

Whichever day it was, warm sunshine this week has put the snow on the slushy run, brought temperatures by day up into the 40's and on top of that, given the winter-weary something to look forward to: better weather.

Milder weather seems to take the tone of this week's weather forecasts and the same bids for the last week of March when the Easter week-end is due.

Acton's growth in 1955 means a bonus for taxpayers in 1956—a bonus in the form of lower taxes. Last night, working with an assessment of \$3,302,440—some \$395,505 more than last year's figure of \$2,906,944—Council struck a mill rate of 61. This is a nine-mill drop from 1955's rate of 70.

Where a mill last year brought in only about \$3,000 to meet \$200,039 in net municipal expenditures, this year the mill will raise closer to \$3,500 to meet the estimated \$218,742 in expenditures to be covered by taxation.

Roughly, the nine mill drop means about a \$12 reduction for every \$100 in taxes paid last year. If you paid \$100 last year, you'll pay around \$88 this year. If you paid \$200 in 1955, you'll pay about \$176 in 1956. If your taxes in '56 were around the \$300 bracket, this year they'll be in the area of \$264. Actual percentage reduction is 12.66.

Although taxes are down, the town's estimated expenditures are not.

Last year it cost a total of \$205,618.87 to cope with Acton's expenses. Revenue against that amounted to \$80,579.21. This year Acton will need to draw on a total of \$291,456.28 to meet all estimated and fixed disbursements. However, estimated revenue is up too, to \$272,702.62. Subtract with these last two figures and the amount to be raised by taxation—\$218,742.06—is left.

From the finance statement studied before 1956's rate was unanimously adopted, members noted a surplus brought over into this year's revenue from 1955 of \$66.85.

Actual spending in 1956 has increased \$21,026.41 over last year, about eight per cent.

Establishment of the mill rate was not council's only important business at last night's special meeting.

Pass New Dog By-Law

In one sweep, seven by-laws which had pertained to dog control in town were rescinded and a new by-law, heavily armed for enforcement, put into effect. Before this came about, members confirmed a resolution recommended by the North Halton Urban Board to bring the services of the Oakville and District Humane Society in Acton.

For \$1,000 per year the society will be in Acton two half days per week, answer emergency calls, provide use of its facilities and manpower. A new truck is to be bought to service the three north Halton towns and a part-time employee taken on full-time.

Through this arrangement, council considered the new dog control by-law has sharp teeth.

Some of the by-law's provisions provide that a dog can be picked up and destroyed if its owners refuse to pay the tax and allow it to run at large. Any dog not under control, whether tagged or not, can be impounded and disposed of if not called for in the regulation period of three days.

Fines up to \$50 are provided for infractions of the new by-law. Penalty is also stipulated if dog owners do not obtain licenses by March 31 of each year.

The by-law also states that any dog known to be rabid is to be killed immediately.

Joint Meeting Held Of Rotarians, Y's Men

Rotarians and Y's Men held a joint meeting Tuesday evening. During the meeting, members of both clubs learned representatives of the proposed Parks Commission would expect signatures from members for a petition prior to the municipal vote on the Commission set-up.

Rev. Gordon Adams chaired the well-attended meeting when reports and discussion on a new church continued.

Several alternatives were debated following the report of the building committee.

One suggestion, to move from the present Mill St. site altogether, was rejected. It is possible that a new church would face toward Elgin St.

Revamping of the church will begin shortly. Repairs are also to be made to the foundation and brick work.

Urban Board Pushes Dog Control

Geachie informed board members that P. Merry of the Humane Society, who was asked to be present at the meeting, could not come but had telephoned with information for the board. Mr. Merry had told the secretary that the Humane Society could serve the three towns at a maximum cost of \$3,500, which would pay for a new truck, as well as a part-time man to spend two half days in each municipality. The truck, pointed out the clerk, would be used solely for the three towns unless in case of emergency in the southern part of the county.

Mayor Armstrong immediately asked what would happen if the three towns were to start a humane society of their own. Most of the members agreed it would cost a lot more than \$3,500. Mayor E. Tyler of Acton noted that the truck which was purchased by Oakville and Trafalgar, had been used in Acton as well as the other two municipalities represented on the board. "How do we know our truck won't be going into the rest of the county?" he queried.

Mayor R. Pearen of Milton, who is a member of the Oakville District Humane Society, informed Mayor Tyler that Oakville and Trafalgar didn't buy the truck that is in use there, but the council of Oakville, Trafalgar and Brant had purchased the vehicle.

Mayor Pearen noted that besides the grants from each of those councils, the Good Neighbor Fund helped out, and tag days were held each year to take care of incidentals. Mayor Pearen added that

last year a new heating system for the shelter meant a \$1,800 deficit. The Milton mayor suggested that if the three towns undertook the project, a new shelter would be needed because the one at Oakville would not be sufficient to handle the extra animals. At the present time, he said, the Oakville shelter is overflowing with dogs being abandoned by their owners who are afraid of rabies.

Commenting on the number of dogs in each town, it was reported that there were 421 tags sold in Georgetown, 200 in Acton and \$300 was realized from the

sale of tags in Milton.

The board also approved another motion that the councils of Acton, Milton and Georgetown be asked to endorse a petition to the county council "to hire an engineer capable of building better roads."

The motion followed brief discussion on the poor condition of some of the county roads and the work reported being done by the county engineer.

The meeting, chaired by Councilor C. Johnson of Milton, was attended by four from Acton, three from Milton and four from Georgetown.



THREE ACTON ATHLETES leave here tonight for Montreal where they will compete in the annual Canadian Amateur Athletic Union indoor meet. Left to right, Frank Cooper, Frank Mariscak, and Emerson Baxter are entered in juvenile and midget track events.

Sunday Fire in Laing House Two Years to Day After Home Burned

Sunday—two years to the day after the same family was burned out of their Esquing township home—flames again forced the Laing family from their Churchill Road home.

Smoke, from a fire believed to have started in a bedroom, rolled from the small frame house as Acton firemen arrived in time to save the home from going up in flames. Mr. Laing and four of the nine children were inside when the fire was discovered.

Saturday a tenth child was born to Mrs. Laing in Acton Nursing Home.

Urban Board Pushes Dog Control Humane Society Would Serve Three Towns

The North Halton Urban Board, meeting in Milton Friday evening, passed a resolution which should begin a program of dog control in the north of the county by the Oakville District Humane Society.

The resolution, moved by Mayor J. Armstrong of Georgetown, and seconded by Reeve S. Childs of Milton, grants a contribution of \$3,000 a year to the Society for the control of dogs in Acton, Georgetown and Milton, the inspection in each town to be two half days a week plus emergencies. The \$3,000 will be divided evenly among the three municipalities.

At the outset of the two-hour meeting in the Milton council chambers, board secretary J. Mc-

Y Banians Win 32-19 Juveniles Lose 78-32

Acton Y's bantam basketball players counted a 22-19 win over Kitchener Y Saturday on the loser's ground. The same day, Acton's juvenile cagers weren't so able as they lost 78-32 to Galtys that community.

In the bantam game, Dave Fleming set up most of the plays with points going to Don Price 10, Bill Shannon 8, Wayne Wilson 4. Line-up included Don Price, Peter Newton, Bill Shannon, Dave Fleming, Wayne Wilson and Paul Wolfe.

Scorers for the juveniles were J. Jany 8, T. Barrager 10, F. Cooper 4, B. Thorinsson 6, W. Currie 4.

Even One Monkey! Free Rabies Clinic Vaccinates 600 Pets

Acton is not the only local town where the dog and cat population was treated yesterday to the preventative vaccine. Under the Toronto district office of the federal health of animals division, Department of Agriculture, other clinics in north Halton were conducted in Brookville, Campbellville and Georgetown. In charge at Brookville was Dr. L. Cook, at Campbellville Dr. C. E. Morgan and Dr. J. Gleason and Dr. T. Spence and Dr. Stubbs at Georgetown.

A clinic was also set up in Rockwood Wednesday under the supervision of the Guelph district. Dr. T. L. Dalis was in charge of the Acton clinic, held in the town hall. He was assisted by Dr. F. G. Oakes and M. MacCormack of the Toronto office. Town employees S. Tennant and J. Frank also assisted in the inoculation of the pets. Carol Tyler and G. Muselle recorded all pets vaccinated and issued certificates to owners.

In the other centres where clinics were carried out, district veterinarians assisted the federal veterinarians in charge.

Department of Agriculture officials, with officers of the county Health Units, continue to organize clinics and preventative or control measures against the spread of rabies. Halton's Rabies Control Committee is meeting regularly to chart progress of preventative steps in this county.

Since a case of rabies was confirmed at Eden Mills two weeks ago, no other outbreak has been reported in or near Halton.

M. P. P. Lauds Chamber's Role in Service to Town

A native of Halton whose family has resided in this grand old county for six generations, Stan Hall, M.P.P., was guest speaker at the Wednesday dinner meeting of Acton Chamber of Commerce.

In a concise address, Mr. Hall expressed appreciation of the community service that the Chamber and similar civic minded bodies did in furthering the welfare of the community. He sketched the history of Halton and gave many interesting facts. He noted the present development of Halton in the tremendous growth of Ontario.

Mr. Hall in his talk also stressed under the freedom of the British flag and felt that under no other form of democracy could a nation such as Canada have developed so soundly. He was thanked for his address on behalf of the group by William Davey.

Oven Blast Causes Burns to Face, Hair

Miss Beryl Flynn escaped with minor burns Friday when an explosion occurred in the kitchen of her home just south of Acton.

Miss Flynn was lighting the propane gas jet of her stove oven when the explosion took place. She was burned about the face and hair, but covered herself quickly and called Dr. W. Kenney.

Miss Flynn said no property damage was caused by the explosion.

Home & School Hears Lawyer

George Elliott, Q.C., Milton, entertained the Acton Home and School members at the March anniversary association Monday evening with an interesting and amusing talk. He spoke to children and the responsibility of parents to train youngsters to cope with life as an adult.

Miss E. Goodwin explained the teaching of music to the help of the pupils of Miss Anderson's class. The stage was set up as a classroom and a typical lesson conducted.

A short business meeting included Mrs. Franklin's report on the Home and School play which is progressing. The distribution and sale of tickets was discussed and members agreed that members of the association would sell tickets this year instead of pupils.

Volunteers were asked to help with the children at the Music Festival in Acton April 27. Miss Anderson's room with the picture with 14 present. Total attendance was 75. Lunch was served.

Legion Here Has Busy Week-end

A week-end of busy activity is in store for the Acton branch of the Canadian Legion as members celebrate their branch's 25th anniversary this week-end and open a gleaming new wing just added to the Main St. quarters.

Friday night a dance is scheduled to baptize the spacious new auditorium. This will be the Legion's anniversary ball.

Saturday night a membership banquet will honor charter members and others prominent in the local branch founding 25 years ago. Special guests are invited, while speaker of the evening will be Major John Anderson. Major Anderson is a former minister at Knox church here.

Sunday local and district residents are invited to an open house in the early afternoon when the new wing and facilities will be on view. Legion chaplain Rev. E. Jones will officiate at a dedication ceremony planned for Sunday afternoon.

More Contest Honors For Acton Violinist

An Acton violinist, well known in the town and district, continues to earn honors in music competitions and festivals.

Sheila Paul, at last week's Stratford Kiwanis Music Festival, won two firsts, one in the 17 years and under and the other in the 19 years and under group. Also at Stratford, in the same week, Miss Paul won the Peat County Music Teachers' Federation violin trophy and the H. W. Strudley scholarship of \$25.



TREASURE CHEST COUPONS for Acton merchants' Appreciation Day draws have in the last few months so shocked the barrel originally started with, that a bigger barrel, donated by A. P. Green Ltd., was pressed into service. Last year's Rotary Peanut Queen, Frances Oakes, did the honors Saturday when the tens of thousands of coupons were shovelled into the bigger barrel.