

The Acton Free Press.

Eighty-First Year.—No. 39.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, APRIL 5th, 1956

Eight Pages Seven Cents.

Local, Highway Mishaps in Fog

Despite the near-nil visibility caused at times by Monday and Tuesday's fog, only one minor accident was reported in Acton by local police.

Monday morning two cars clipped each other at the highway corner of Queen and Young Streets, causing a total of \$80 damage. The vehicles were driven by Jessie Mitchell, Hanover and Calvin Fletcher, Toronto.

Outside of town, late Tuesday night on No. 7 highway, a huge transport drove off the pavement just east of the Fifth Line of Esqueville. The truck heaved over in the ditch. Fog was so thick that one motorist later passed the capsize transport without seeing it. The driver was not injured, nor was the vehicle badly damaged.

See Demonstration At W.A. Meeting

The Women's Association of the United Church met at the home of Mrs. H. Burns on Tuesday of last week with the president, Mrs. H. Burns, presiding. Devotional period was taken by J. Ralston. Roll call was answered by a flower of your name's initial. An Easter poem was read by Mrs. C. W. Mason. Contest winners were Mrs. E. N. Lambert, Mrs. Shoemaker and Mrs. J. Wilderpin.

Cards were sent to sick and shut-ins during Easter. The group was very pleased to have Mrs. M. Walker with them once again. The president welcomed members and friends who were at the meeting. Mrs. J. Denny had a demonstration of aluminum products, which was quite interesting and several sales were made. Each present received an envelope of bath salts and cuticle remover.

Mrs. F. Cleave reported that the quilts are still busy at their work. The meeting closed with a hymn and Mizpah benediction. Mrs. Burns was assisted by Mrs. Ballentine, Mrs. G. Inglis, Mrs. E. Lambert and Mrs. C. L. Poole. Refreshments were served. A vote of thanks was given to Mrs. Burns for her home and to the helpers.

Synodical Society Meeting This Week

Two from Acton are attending the annual meeting of the synodical society of Toronto and Kingston Women's Missionary Society, Western Division on Tuesday, Wednesday, and today at Knox Presbyterian church, Harrison. Mrs. Harry Mainprize is a member of the synodical board and Mrs. Robert Armstrong is the delegate from Guelph Presbyterian.

Addresses are being given by Miss Laura K. Pelton, executive director of overseas missions, and Miss Isabel McConnell, Reg. N. of Bhal Field, India. Mrs. Mainprize is taking part in a panel discussion of the problems of the organization secretary. Theme of the meeting is the Divine Fire.

Huntsville Tannery Gas Overcomes Three

Overcome in succession by fumes of hydrogen sulphide gas, three employees of the Anglo-Canadian Leather Co. at Huntsville died there on Saturday. The plant and Beardmore's here are both owned by Canada Packers, and some of the local men knew the victims of the tragic accident.

One of the three who died was the plant manager, George Masbough, who has visited the tannery here. Representatives from the Beardmore plant here attended the funeral Tuesday.

Another victim was Sholto Raven, brother of Gordon Raven, a former Actonian who married Jean McMillan.

The third man was Alvin Chevalier.

Eramosa Raises Minimum Salary

The Eramosa Area School Board met in the Rockwood school March 27 with a full attendance. Duncan McPhedran in the chair. Repair of the front door of No. 9 was authorized and it was agreed to install an electric bell in the Rockwood school.

The minimum salary was raised from \$2,400 to \$2,600. Mr. Toll demonstrated steel reinforced blackboards and four sections were ordered for use in the township. The secretary, George Day, was instructed to place an advertisement for three teachers.

No. 7 Right-of-Way Will be Increased

Property owners on No. 7 Highway east of Acton have been notified that the Ontario Department of Highways intends to widen the highway to a right of way of 100 feet early next year.

Some fences will be required to be moved and the Department will compensate owners for the land required for the moving.

—Another sign of spring: all those packets of seed displayed for sale already! And what's more—they're being bought.



NEW MARIA ST. BRIDGE construction is well advertised these days as the hammer crash of this pile driver echoes around the town. It is expected the bridge will be back in use this summer after piles are driven, supports raised, concrete slab structures laid.

Seals, Ladies' Night New Officers Topics

Returns in the annual Easter Seal campaign stand now at 80 per cent. of last year's total, committee chairman Walter Woodburn reported at the meeting of the Rotary club on Tuesday evening. Returns are still coming in, however.

Appointed to the nomination committee for selecting next year's officers were Tom Jones, Jim Ledger and Wes Masales. Dr. Leib, the vice-president, explained he would not be able to hold office as he expects to leave town this spring. He also reported on the crippled children's work.

Plans will shortly be finalized for Ladies' Night. The business editor, Mr. Lutz from Wood River, Illinois, a regular guest, attended.

PHONE 600

This week an additional telephone line was opened in the Free Press to accommodate classified advertisers, news informants and commercial printing inquiries who lately may not have been able to reach the office on their first call.

With the second line in the former Free Press number—174—goes out of use. New numbers are 600 and 601. Callers, however, need only use 600 to get a line. If one line is busy, a second call on 600 automatically switches over to 601.

Inside the Free Press lines are now directed to the three main departments. Separate phones are located in the business, editorial and commercial printing sections.

Planning Board Firm in Commercial Lot Size Controversy with Oil Company

Acton Planning Board took a "no compromise" stand Monday night that any building which goes up on the commercial block on the south-east corner of Churchill Road is not to change its status.

They argued that it was not economically sensible to build a service station 150' back from highway and asked the Board to settle for less than 150 feet.

Scotts at Idea

Town planner P. A. Deacon scoffed at the idea. He asserted that in metropolitan Toronto more than one new service station was erected 150 feet or more from street lines and suggested that the Petrofina representatives knew this.

One of the Petrofina delegates pointed out that the Sun Oil Co. had bought land adjacent to their oil station and said he doubted if this rival company's station would be in 150 from the highway.

Chairman William Matlock said he knew this, but pointed out that the Sun Oil property was outside the town limits. He added that the Board hoped some co-operation could be created with Esquimes Planning Board to get together on rulings that affect boundary cases such as this one.

The proposed service road, to run along the rear line of the Commercial zone came into the discussion in order to meet with the part of the ruling governing distance from the road allowance at the rear of commercial buildings. Petrofina would like to hold some 250 feet in lot length, 100 feet more than is presently under option.

One More Reason

In order to successfully plan for the service road's extension, the Board viewed this as one more reason why there should be no compromise on building distance ruling.

At one point, Petrofina spokesman intimated he understood from the clerk's office there would be "no difficulty" for his company to go ahead. A Planning Board member pointed out that his company had not been misled. There would be no difficulty if the Board's zone ruling was adhered to, the oil company representative was told.

Later in the meeting Board members confirmed a decision that buildings facing side streets in this commercial zone must comply to a setback of 30 feet or to a line coinciding with setback of existing buildings.

Toward the close of the meeting, members reviewed their pace this year in town plan and zoning by-law work. It was decided to meet twice monthly with one meeting in public session open to delegations and the other a private meeting for town plan and zoning by-law preparations.

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Fog Obscures Smoke In Fire at Lakeview

A trailer used by workers for the Lakeview subdivision contractor came close to destruction by fire on Monday night when fog was so thick it couldn't be distinguished from smoke.

Firemen were called to douse a smouldering insulating straw under the trailer.

Mud at the subdivision is so heavy the fire truck could not enter. Instead, the pumper was driven in behind Toth's garage and a hose line run through back yards.

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Spring Fog, Mist Price of Warmth

Two days of one of Ontario's heaviest spring fogs in years seems to be the price of warmer weather, here at last but with a mixed blessing of broken roads and muddy washes.

In the past week the snow has made a steady decline. Easter Sunday was mild and sunny, co-operative weather for midday's new hat. Temperatures have gradually risen up until yesterday, despite high winds later in the day, the mid-morning sun pushed the mercury up to the 50's.

While Monday and Tuesday were mild, a springtime combination of rising wet and falling fog combined to produce a condition almost as thick as sulphur smoke. Monday night and Tuesday night, fog filled vast blankets above highways, wooded areas, swamps, and just about everywhere else.

Visibility in some areas of Southern Ontario, including this part of Halton, was practically zero as driving became a treacherous feat. Temperatures will continue to climb, but spring's less pleasant aspects seem bound to take their toll.

Lord Barnby Gives Long Service Awards to Wool Combing Group

The Right Honourable Lord Barnby, C.M.G., C.B.E., M.V.O., president of Wool Combing Corporation of Canada Limited presented long service awards of inscribed gold watches on March 22 to 15 employees in recognition of 15 years' continuous service with the company. They are Miss Mina Cripps, Mrs. Jean Meadows, H. J. Boulton, C. McCrea, F. Pink, H. Perkins, H. Dolphin, V. Kemner, L. Brown, J. Zions, F. Meller, H. Graham, K. Fryer, A. Tanley and A. Gordon.

In his remarks, Lord Barnby thanked these employees for their faithful and valued service to the company since its inception in 1940. Lord Barnby was accompanied by K. L. Markon, general manager, who also spoke of the good services rendered by these employees since the formation of the Company in Acton.

This brings to a total of 18 persons who have received the 15 year service award including Mrs. A. Harris, J. Brydon and L. Wieck, who received their watches in December, 1956.

Easter Egg Hunt Holiday Feature Actor Y.M.C.A.

On Tuesday of this week, over 100 children took part in the annual Easter egg hunt at the Y.M.C.A., scouring the building from top to bottom looking for the pieces of specially marked paper which could be turned into chocolate eggs if enough were collected.

The hunt in this case was the Laura Secord Co. who provided the prizes for the hunt.

First prize went to Paul McGeehan and second prize to Carol Bradley. Keith Matlock won the third prize and David Hartgrave was fourth. Fifth and sixth prizes went to Dale Woodburn and Carl Davey. No one went away empty handed for 200 lollipops were provided so that everyone could receive a prize.

In a hotly contested junior checker tournament, the champion, Carmen Woodburn, carried over all five games in regular play and then in the finals met Lawrence Bennett, who also took all her regular games. After a long and thoughtful struggle, Carmen finally emerged the winner.

Betty Altonby, who didn't lose a single game, took the senior checker championship. Bill Churchill, who just lost one game, came second.

In table tennis play the following advance in the fourth round: Mike Churchill, Ted Quenneville, Terry Carnes, Betty Altonby, Bill Shannon, Stewart MacDonald, Peter Newton.

In the floor hockey the Panthers won the game and championship, with an 11-5 victory over the Muckers. Bob Cox, with seven goals, was high scorer for the victors, while Don Lindsay, with three, paced the losers. The Panthers will receive crests in May.

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Honored at Showers March Bride, Groom

A bride of last month, Mrs. Walter Swanson, was the guest of honor at several showers prior to her marriage. She is the former Miss Virginia Johnston.

Follow employees from the office of Baxter Laboratories gathered at the home of Mrs. John McHugh for a shower. The Johnston home was the setting for another shower, held by Mrs. Doug Thompson, Miss Betty Williamson and Miss Carol Tyler. Miscellaneous gifts were given.

Both the bride and groom were honored at a shower at Rockwood at the home of Miss Aleda Bacon.

Georgetown Banquet Ends Firemen Course

The Halton County Mutual Aid Fire Services Association recently held its annual banquet in the Georgetown Legion hall. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of fire instructor's certificates to 22 firemen who had been taking the course in Milton for the past 20 weeks.

The course, directed by William O'Sullivan of the Ontario Fire Marshall's Office, readied the two or three men from each of Halton Brigades to instruct the others in their brigade in various aspects of fire fighting and prevention.

Guests at the dinner were Georgetown Mayor Jack Armstrong, Halton Warden Stanley Allen, Ontario Fire Marshal W. J. Scott, Provincial Civil Defence Co-ordinator E. Bevis, regional Civil Defence Co-ordinator Brigadier Whitelaw, local Civil Defence Co-ordinator Lt. Col. John R. Barber, and the mayors and Reeves of all the municipalities of Halton. Several of these men spoke briefly to the guests.

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Daughters of Knox View World 'isms

The Daughters of Knox held their regular monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. Irene Masters, President, Mrs. E. A. Hanson, presided at the meeting. A hymn and motto were sung.

Bulls were passed out to the group during the business period. The study period on the different "isms" of the world and what they mean, today was taken by Mrs. Earl Masales and her group. The meeting was adjourned and a delicious lunch was served by the group in-charge.

REV. R. H. ARMSTRONG, pastor of Knox Presbyterian Church here for the past seven years, will leave later this spring to take over a Hamilton charge.

Roads in Town Bad But Few Years Ago They Were Worse

Roads about town are in terrible condition and, of course, those in the new subdivisions are in the worst condition. Even in the older sections of town big chunks of road surface have been lifted and holes left that are treacherous. If you're walking the proper footwear in many sections is rubber boots.

Yes, it's bad this spring! But old-timers who can remember back to the days when sewers were installed five or six years ago can laugh it off as a mere nothing. Every road in town in those days was bad. Why this spring is nothing to the conditions we had in 1950 and 1951.

Yes, it's bad, but it's been worse!

Oldest Citizen Is 99 Saturday

Acton's oldest citizen, W. H. Mainprize, added another milestone to his full life on Saturday when he celebrated his 99th birthday. After receiving a succession of visitors, he is looking forward to more next year when he turns 100 years of age.

Flowers and cards decorated Mr. Mainprize's Mill St. home where he has lived since 1922. His daughter, Miss Mamie Mainprize, lives with him. Neighbors and relatives joined in congratulating him when they dropped in.

Mr. Mainprize came to Acton in 1912 from Bracebridge, and worked at the tannery until his retirement. Although Mr. Mainprize has been staying inside since the weather has made walking difficult, he is looking forward to the spring. "I am in as good health as I ever was," he asserts.

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HANDICRAFT CLASS at Halton Manor is providing a worthwhile project for the manor ladies during the winter months, as evidenced by the display pictured above. Shown with the articles made during the past two months are, left to right, Myriell Thompson, who writes articles for the Champion; Mrs. E. Clarke, Matron of the Manor and instructor of the class; Miss Hilda Marcy, and Miss H. Metcalfe.



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