

The Acton Free Press.

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GOLDEN WEDDING CELEBRANTS, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Norton who have been residents of Limehouse for 41 years, last week marked their 50th anniversary. They are shown here admiring one of the many bouquets received from friends and family. They were feted at a family dinner and reception.

Believed to Be High Grade

Find Oil in Esqueusing Natural Gas Well

Call Tenders for New Fire Station

Tenders are being sought by the town this week for construction of a proposed new fire station, to be annexed to the rear of the present hall.

General specifications, read at a recent meeting of council, call for a building approximately 65 feet long, 48 feet wide at the front and about 54 feet wide at the rear. It would be of concrete block construction, one storey high and a brick facing on the front where three sectional overhead doors will admit to the equipment area.

Interior of the building is to be finished in asbestos board in the equipment room, while walls and ceilings of the proposed boiler room are to be double lath with plaster. Bunk room, lavatory, kitchen and hall are to be finished in standard lath and plaster.

The new building would face Bower Ave. Plans show the row of doors to stand out about 10 feet further than the present fire hall entry. To the rear, the hall will extend 19 feet past the south edge of the present town hall.

The specifications also stipulate the moving of the wood building which now houses the old fire truck over to the south side of the town hall to face Willow St.

Erin Men Involved In Two Car Mishaps

District police reported two accidents in this area during the week. Both involved Erin men.

Albert Slater, Erin, was arrested and charged with impaired driving after an accident Saturday evening about two miles east of Acton on No. 7 highway where his car crashed off the road and into some cedar trees.

A \$125 collision occurred Wednesday evening on No. 7 highway at the Silvercreek hill. The emergency brake on a car driven by Douglas McArthur, Erin, slipped, causing the car to roll into a car driven by Philip Schure of Toronto.

Delegates Report On I.O.D.E. Gathering

Reports of the annual meeting of the Provincial chapter of I.O.D.E. were given by Lakeside chapter I.O.D.E.'s two delegates at the chapter meeting in their Legion Hall Tuesday evening.

Mrs. W. Dumarch and Mrs. R. West told of the various addresses, suggestions and ceremonies.

The regent, Mrs. Sonny Jocke, presided. Projects were discussed during the business meeting, and refreshments concluded the evening.

Car Exhaust Fumes Kill Mechanic at Silvercreek

Gerry Frazer, a 27-year-old garage mechanic employed at the garage owned by Bert District, No. 7 highway at the Silvercreek hill, was found asphyxiated in his car outside the garage early yesterday (Wednesday) morning.

His body was found by the garage owner and a neighbor, Bill Hanson, at 8:45 a.m. O.P.E. Constable George Moore who investigated said Frazer apparently fell asleep in the vehicle, which was still running when he was found.

There were holes in the floor of the car caused by rust, and the car had a defective muffler.

County Coroner Dr. J. Chamberlain reported the man died of asphyxiation. It is not known whether or not the Crown Attorney will order an inquest into the mechanic's death.

Frazer, formerly of the Parry Sound district, was employed at the garage since January 1. He lived at the rear of the service station.

Oil was reported found last weekend in the latest capped gas well drilled by Anthony Gas & Oil Explorations Ltd. in Esqueusing township.

Tony Seynuck, Acton president of the year-old company which recently signed a gas supply contract with the United Suburban Gas Co. Ltd. of Hamilton, said this week that high grade oil was found in the No. 8 well when a residue check was made Saturday for water in the shaft.

Sunday Mr. Seynuck, with technical assistant D. R. Murphy, took samples of the oil to Ohio for testing by the Maryland firm of Wightman and Murphy, said laboratory tests are now being made on the samples and equipment will be moved in shortly from Ohio to acidize the find. When this is completed fuller data on grade, potential and extent of the oil will be known, he said.

"This oil could prove to be one of the richest finds in the county", Mr. Murphy added.

He explained that this area lies over Trenton limestone which characterizes a geological formation known in Canada as the "Ontario arch". The arch begins in the northern section of Halton, extends south-west, under Lake Erie and into Ohio and Indiana. It is one to 25 miles wide in places.

Mr. Murphy pointed out that from the Trenton limestone area in these two states, part of the same arch that starts here, there have been over 610 million barrels of oil taken from fields developed by the consulting geological firm of Roberts & Hesse, an American firm which investigated results by Tony Seynuck before the Acton company was formed, is said to have indicated strong suspicions of oil in this area.

Chief Enumerator Addresses Rotarians

The chief enumerator for Halton county for the coming census, Art Cadbury spoke on his work to the Rotary club at their meeting on Tuesday.

Chiefly night and Peanut Day are currently being planned by the group.

Group Hears Record At Monday Meeting

Mrs. Roy Arnold was hostess to the Acton Music study group on Monday evening, Cecar Francis was the composer under consideration and the group heard a recording of his Symphonic Variations.

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Consultative Committee Hearing Pros, Cons for Break-Up of District H. S. Area Heard in Public

Briefs for and against changes in the organization of the North Halton High School District Board were submitted to the Consultative Committee on high schools at the only scheduled public meeting of the group, in the Court House, Milton, Wednesday night.

Chairman of the committee, D. A. McConachie, K. C. Lindsay, Public School Inspector Johnston, Public School Inspector L. L. Skuce and M. M. Robinson, Mr. Robinson was not present at the meeting.

No representations or submissions were made on behalf of southern municipalities but Esqueusing and Nassagaweya entered strong objections to any change in the present area. Milton recommended division of the present area into three areas or districts around the three urban centres. Georgetown indicated they would like to see the matter studied and Acton was not represented.

Dr. C. A. Martin, former high school board chairman, submitted

Milton's brief indicating arguments in support of division of the present area.

At the opening of the hearing, there were no other municipalities, school boards or individuals seeking a hearing.

Later in the meeting Deputy Reeves George Currie, Esqueusing, and Reeve Archie Service, Nassagaweya, spoke on their brief submitted jointly by the two councils.

The townships suggested that if the Consultative Committee recommended breaking up the present area they suggest establishment of four districts, one in each of the urban centres of Milton, Acton and Georgetown, and one in the townships without a school. This, Mr. Currie pointed out, would allow the townships to send their pupils to the nearest urban school on a per pupil payment basis until further accommodation was not available. The townships then might construct their own high school at a long term saving to ratepayers.

"The township brief recommended retaining the present organization for five years at which time it might be reviewed or in a shorter time if conditions warranted."

"Bruce MacNab questioned if the committee was also to review transportation. He pointed out that Milton should be the nucleus of the one area and serve parts of Nelson and Trafalgar to save on transportation."

Chairman McConachie questioned

if he realized this would adversely affect the grants. This was realized but it was thought the grants might be altered to suit geographical points.

Inspector Johnson pointed out the majority of assessment in the two southern townships was in the south. "I doubt if the residents of Trafalgar and Nelson would be at all willing to lose the benefit of that big assessment, which they would if a portion came into the Milton district," he pointed out.

Mr. MacNab questioned further if any attempt would be made to transport north Nelson and north Trafalgar pupils to Milton. Col. G. O. Brown, secretary of the North Halton High School Board, had not at any time provided transportation to Milton school.

Chairman McConachie redefined the purpose of the committee for those who arrived late. He noted the committee had not attempted to study any specific complaint or problem. "It is just a general examination," he defined.

N. Pickett, member of the North Halton Board indicated the original idea of the board was to have one central school at Spesside. Since growth made this plan not feasible, he suggested there was concern whether this was the right method of operation.

Speaking on the plan of breaking the district into three, he suggested there seemed a need for more specialized attention in each municipality.

Mayor J. Armstrong, Georgetown, reviewed that his council had asked establishment of the Consultative Committee to tell them which would be the best method of operation. His council indicated, had not formed any opinions for or against.

He reviewed that Georgetown had only entered the area because of economy and not through any real satisfaction with the method of operation.

R. E. Parker, Acton ratepayer,

Paving Program for Roads Gets Further Council Study

Possibility that a major part of Acton's 18 miles of streets may be paved this year was given further favorable study in Council Tuesday night as members heard a report from the road committee on the economy and worth of the cold patch method of hardtopping.

Last Saturday the road committee, with Mayor E. Tyler, made a trip to Beaverton where cold patch paving was done last year. Committee chairman E. N. Brown told Council of the characteristics of this type of paving and its apparent durability.

It was mentioned that cost per year for cold patch paving could be about half the cost of hot hardtopping.

Members discussed the extent of

grants if a general paving program were initiated this year. A meeting is to be held early next week with a Department of Highways engineer to discuss the grant set-up as well as other considerations in the proposed paving.

Displeased with Program

Roads in the growing Lakeview subdivision came in for energetic discussion later in the meeting. The contractor, told council that C.H. H.C. was displeased with the town's progress on roads in Lakeview to serve the first 28 houses.

Council talked this over, generally agreed that work was being done as quickly as soil conditions would permit. Two residents of Lakeview at the meeting as spectators, spoke briefly on the topic. They both

agreed conditions were bad, but understood it was useless to dump gravel only to have it disappear into mud holes.

Mayor Tyler said there was only so much money to spend on these roads and the town has no intention of wasting the money of gravel lost in still-muddy holes.

During this discussion Council veered off the subject to discuss the engineer Frank Pallesen's reach of authority in carrying through road work. A short argument developed on whether or not the engineer was getting sufficient instructions from council committees to effect his work.

Entangled as Ever

The "Brankiewicz case" is still as entangled as ever. Early in the meeting Councillor S. Brunelle reported on a meeting with the Robert Hudson Co. Ltd. The town failed to get any commitment from the subdividers for a share in expediting costs on a house in the way of a straight road.

Council agreed to let this latest complexity in the confused case ride until further word is heard from the contractors.

A. Irwin appeared at the meeting to request a donation toward decoration Day expenses. Council voted to pay for the printing of programs for this year's Service on June 3.

During the reading of accounts, Councillor Brunelle asked if a periodic check or inventory could be kept on small manual equipment in each town department. He said he felt that proper care was not always being taken of this type of equipment.

The idea of a stock control method was broached but not discussed seriously. The mayor suggested each committee look after its own equipment.

Claims Fence Damaged

Mrs. M. McCullough also appeared at the meeting to demand action from the town to improve the condition of a fence on her property which was damaged during road work by the town on Churchill Road. Mayor Tyler promised the complaint would be attended to and asked the road committee to look after it.

Final reading was given a by-law which grants a partial tax exemption to the local branch of the Canadian Legion.

Clerk J. McGeachie submitted a levy schedule from the C.V.C.A., also read the summary of fines for March. Council endorsed a resolution from the village of Long Branch. The resolution sought greater per capita grants for smaller municipalities.

Council granted a business assessment write-off to S. G. Smallwood, Ltd. totalling \$24,225 on the balance of the year, following cessation of operations at this plant March 5.

Permission was granted the assessor to attend the annual convention in North Bay.

P.L.C. Salaries Approved

A motion from the P.U.C. to provide for remuneration to its members on the basis of 24 meetings a year, was read out. Council concurred, passed a motion approving \$8 per meeting to the chairman, \$6 to members.

"I wonder if this will affect the rates," Councillor Barbeau asked.

"No," replied the mayor, "it will come out of current revenue."

Acton's share of the county assessment was noted for 1956. Total is \$16,912.25. Of this amount, \$9,031.14 is for general expenses, \$7,881.11 for roads.

Council acknowledged a revised, shorter version of the national building code from the National Research Council. Briefly discussed was the possibility of the town reviewing its own building by-law using the national code as a basis. No definite proposal was made however.

Council accepted an indigent patient account, also heard the last Urban Board minutes, read and authorized an interim share payment of \$1000 to the Board as part of Acton's levy for 1956.

Court Action on Taxes

The clerk informed members that court action is scheduled this week for the town's attempt to collect back taxes due from a former small industry here, Plastonics Ltd.

Councillor E. Footitt requested use of the town hall Wednesday nights for band practice. This was granted. He also passed on a complaint from a citizen about an open foundation next to his home which is said to have a dangerous depth of water in it. The building inspector is to look into this complaint.

Councillor Brown asked if there were any further thoughts on putting services down the Third Lane this year. Mayor Tyler replied if a petition for water and sewer lines was obtained the town would likely put down services.

Auto Body Expanding To Two Locations

Acton Auto Body is expanding its business according to owner, Lloyd Bulmer. He is taking over some buildings on the Flynn Farm on highway 25 just south of Acton, and cement flooring is being laid there this week.

An enclosed wrecking yard and used car lot will be included on the new site. Staff has expanded from three to five.

The Auto Body will be operating from two locations, on Main St. South and on the highway, in about two weeks.

Utilities Commissioners Vote to Pay Themselves

Members of Acton's Public Utilities Commission last week took steps to pay themselves for their duties in the next 24 months per year. The amount will likely be fixed at \$6 per member per meeting, with the chairman getting \$2 extra per meeting.

Council must take the legal action to fix the amounts payable to P.U.C. members, it was pointed out by information from the H.E.P.C. regional office. Half the remuneration will be charged against hydro, the other half against water-works.

Chairman F. Oakes wondered why council must set the rate of pay. He opined that most council members are ignorant of the amount of work P.U.C. members do. Mayor E. Tyler mentioned that council members as well would likely wonder why the matter had to be passed through their hands.

Has Free Access

Following an inquiry about the company's legal position on domestic meter access, the H.E.P.C. replied with a quotation from the application for electric lighting service which is a part of consumer contracts. It read in part: "The Corporation shall at all reasonable hours have free access to the said premises for the purpose of reading, examining, repairing or re-

moving their said meters, wires and other material and appliances."

The letter went on to suggest that these customers giving difficulty be advised of this agreement. This information was sought after objections were heard by the Acton Commission from Glenlea residents who complained about the meter readers' manner of entry.

Secretary J. McGeachie reported the Bell Telephone company has agreed to pay a reasonable portion of the cost of replacing a broken water line near T. Brankiewicz property. This was broken while Bell workers were digging in the area. The commission directed the company be billed for 60 per cent of the line replacement cost.

Visit to the Seaway

Chairman Oakes delivered a lengthy report on a tour taken by Mayor Tyler and himself with other municipal officials from the Toronto area, of the huge St. Lawrence seaway power project. This tour was sponsored last week by Ontario Hydro.

The secretary read a judgement from an Ottawa court dealing with a suit by a private firm for interest on a consumer hydro deposit. In this case the claimant lost.

Members agreed to include a copy of a letter sent from the H.E.P.C.

(Continued on Page Three)

Public School to Have at Least Two Classes for Every Grade

Acton public school will have at least two rooms for every grade next term, it was learned at a meeting last week of the public school trustees.

Principal G. W. McKenzie reported there will be two kindergarten primary classes, three Grade I's, three Grade II's, three Grade III's, and two each of Grades IV, V, VI, VII and VIII. The principal was also assured by the Board that there would be establishment of an industrial arts room for next year.

The principal presented a requisition for sporting goods which was approved.

The annual trip to Toronto for Grade VIII pupils was authorized.

Principal McKenzie advised that certain teaching aids were desirable for retarded children. The board directed that these be procured.

Members agreed to pay a registration fee of \$5 for teachers taking one-week social studies course but could not acknowledge same for extra pay. It was further agreed that extra pay would be made only as

per schedule, \$50 for each certificate with a maximum of three.

Rev. Adams was appointed to the Library Board to succeed Rev. R. Armstrong.

The chairman of the property committee reported that it had been necessary to have repairs on the stoker worm.

The secretary reported receipt of \$56 non-resident fees, \$3377.52 legislative grant on \$6 average daily attendance, also \$15,000 part of legislative grant.

A finance statement of \$628.57 was approved, and payment authorized.

Board Approves Land Purchase At Georgetown

At a special meeting in Milton Monday evening, the North Halton District High School Board gave tentative approval of a settlement of the purchase of additional lands at Georgetown on the present site of the buildings. The lands involved are a trifle over five acres and expropriation proceedings have been underway.

The board agreed on a price of \$15,000 and costs totaling \$19,225.00 now involved, after hearing a review of the case from Mr. Ord, the solicitor. Other concessions are a strip of land when required by the town of Georgetown for putting in a street in the rear of the property.

It was also proposed to do some interior decorating and make improvements in the lighting at the Milton school. Quotations were to be secured so that the board might decide what amount might be spent within the budget.

Mrs. McEvee was engaged to teach music at the Milton school at the same rate as occasional teachers.

Set New Courses For Night School

George Bowman will again head the Acton night school committee. Miss Florence Wilkins is secretary and Miss Julie Lesniwicz treasurer. Other committee members are Mrs. W. Beatty, Miss Bella-Maye Hozell, Miss Barbara Wood, Mrs. David Dills and Ted Hansen.

Suggestions for courses are welcomed by those in the group, who also have expressed their interest in the names of any teachers who might be available for next fall.

Courses that might be best next season if enrollment is sufficient include: smoking, silk screen printing, upholstery, millinery, ceramics, clothing, tailoring, art, typing, shop work, shellcraft, leather carrying, jewelry, stone jewelry, enamelling, linen block printing, drama club, public speaking, copper tooling, copper jewelry and quilting. Several of these were taught last year.

The committee is hoping to have more ideas passed on to them before concrete planning for the term commences. They are anxious to include new courses here.

Boy Recovering After Hit by Car

Four-year-old John Seelen, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Seelen of Acton, was reported last night to be in improved condition following an accident Sunday afternoon when the young lad was struck by a car at the corner of Mill and Main Streets.

The Seelen youngster was crossing the corner with his five-year-old brother when a car, driven by Henry Grolota of Hamilton, struck the boy and knocked him to the pavement. The car was travelling south on Main Street at the time.

Taken for medical attention almost immediately by the driver, the injured boy was rushed to the Toronto Hospital for Sick Children with a police escort. At the hospital he was found to have a concussion.

The driver of the car, accompanied at the time of the mishap by his wife, has been charged with careless driving, police here said yesterday.

Auto Body Expanding To Two Locations

Acton Auto Body is expanding its business according to owner, Lloyd Bulmer. He is taking over some buildings on the Flynn Farm on highway 25 just south of Acton, and cement flooring is being laid there this week.

An enclosed wrecking yard and used car lot will be included on the new site. Staff has expanded from three to five.

The Auto Body will be operating from two locations, on Main St. South and on the highway, in about two weeks.

Dead of Night Fire Damages Gatehouse

The wail of the fire siren at four a.m. Tuesday morning turned firemen and a handful of light sleepers out of their beds to a smoky blaze at the Wool Combing Corp. plant.

The gatehouse of the plant caught fire while watchman C. Withers was on rounds. When he noticed the smoke firemen were called but they arrived too late to save the small structure from extensive damage.

Firemen did not state the cause of the blaze.

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Big Green Monster Is Parking Attendant At Local Cemetery?

It's getting pretty hard for teenagers who like to enjoy the warmer air of spring nights in a car-to park in peace these days.

Reporting this out is the frustration of a ghoulish green monster, some nine feet tall with claws and drooling fangs, which supposedly sprang out of a graveyard tomb last week.

That's the scary one of the stories went anyway.

Another had two escapees from the Reformatory in disguise, using the cemetery as a hideout.

The stories even went so far that local police took a look for themselves. But they went away fairly certain that the activity was no more than some indolent teenagers playing peepaboo on other teenagers whose car had—as the saying goes—run out of gas on dark cemetery lane.

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