

HAPPY NEW YEAR



"I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown' and he replied 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than the known way'."

Quotation from address by His Majesty King George VI in his Christmas Broadcast to the Empire December 25th, 1939.

Commission Studies Variance In Water Pumped, Sewage Flow

A variance between total water output and total sewage disposal was brought to the attention of the Public Utilities Commission at its last regularly scheduled meeting of 1956, held Thursday evening.

A report from the Ontario Department of Health concerning an inspection of the sewage disposal plant—Newmarket noted that 3,000,000 gallons of water per month passed through the disposal plant. It immediately raised the question of where the excess water is coming from as the town pumping station is only delivering 4,000,000 gallons for the same period. Some of the additional water, an estimated 2,000,000 gallons, comes from two other sources.

Superintendent Lambert of the waterworks department blamed the excess on cellar drainage and the extremely wet weather. Mayor Tyler suggested excess water was coming from residents who dispose of water from private wells, not purchased from the Acton commission.

The by-law leading with meter installations on unpurchased drainage water was studied by the commission and it was noted the town has an option to either install a meter on drainage water or charge the resident a flat rate of \$4.

The commission suggested the sewage superintendent study the report and present his views at the next commission meeting.

The Department of Health report also noted a general improvement in the disposal plant efficiency and the apparent good condition of the station.

Receipt of a reply from the developer of the Lakeview subdivision was announced by secretary J. McGeechie, concerning the installation of light standards. The letter stated that because of the weather, completion of the job at this time was not practical but that the project would be completed in the spring.

A complaint from S. Cannon regarding the high reading of his water meter was presented to the commission for consideration. Mr. Cannon, a resident of his house for only two months, was charged for 105,000 gallons of water.

It was decided by the commission that because of the inaccessibility of the meter, estimates and not correct readings had been taken. On that basis, Mr. Cannon was charged according to his previous average and installation of the meter in a more accessible position was suggested.

Also read was a complaint from W. Kelly regarding his high water meter reading. Superintendent Lambert reported he had personally, in the company of Mr. Kelly, tested the meter and it was found



OVER 300 CHILDREN received gifts from Santa at the Beardmore Christmas party last week when the jolly fellow appeared for the event. Master of ceremonies for the event was Bob Parker. A group of children are shown here receiving their gifts.

WITH MANY HELPERS Santa presided at the annual distribution of gifts when the local branch of the Legion held its annual children's Christmas Party. Seated on Santa's knee is Georgina Angell, 5, who glows with delight at Santa's pre-Christmas visit.

J. Haggins Instantly Killed As Truck Slams Boulders

John C. Haggins, age 25, of R.R. 1, Acton, was killed instantly and three other persons escaped uninjured when the one-ton pick-up truck in which they were riding slammed into two boulders and somersaulted in a ditch on No. 20 Sideroad a few miles west of Acton Friday night.

Wayne Haggins, aged 16, who was driving the truck, and Lloyd Zigler, 30, of Georgetown, were uninjured. Edward Zigler, who was riding in the back of the truck,

jumped out before the truck flipped over.

Constable George Moore of the County O.P.P. detachment, who investigated, said the truck missed a curve and struck the rocks, flipping it over. The dead man was pinned in the wreckage of the truck for an hour.

He is survived by his widow, Joan, and children Fred, one, Heather, two, and a baby girl, two weeks old.

O.P.P. Register 160 Convictions From 189 Cases

Acton's Provincial Police detachment registered 160 convictions of 189 cases prosecuted during the 11 months of this year from January to November.

Monthly reports filed with the town indicate a total of \$2,030 in fines imposed as the members of the three man detachment travelled 14,958 miles.

November saw the heaviest series of fines as they reached \$440. During the first six months of the year, 336 warnings were issued under the Highway Traffic Act.

According to magistrate's reports filed with the town by that court, fines issued totalling \$1,396, the town would receive \$583.53 for the first 11 months.

Waterworks Accounts	
Bell Telephone, serv.	\$ 8.10
Can. Brass Ltd., supp.	35.95
Williams Supply Co.	4.98
Acton P.U.C. Hydro, serv.	113.44
American Waterworks Assn., annual dues	12.50
Empire Brass Mfg.	25.60
Nature Motors	162.91
Wallace & Tierman	28.57
	\$390.05

Sewer Accounts	
Bell Telephone, serv.	11.55
Acton P.U.C. Hydro, serv.	114.13
Grant's Motors, gas, etc.	9.46
People's Fuel, supp.	4.90
M. Nellis, acct.	112.00
	\$251.14

Hydro Accounts	
Acton Auto Body, gas	5.89
F. Terry, postage	100.63
Wm. Coon, rent compressor	16.50
H.E.P.C., power bill	12,520.63
Jas. R. Keyney	16.50
Rockwood Lime Co.	1.67
Toth Motors, gas, etc.	42.32
Grant Motors	12.24
Can. Linc. Materials, supp.	45.91
Reliance Elec. transformer	342.00
Part cash, exp., trans.	17.62
Bell Telephone, serv.	45.45
Ellis & Howard, supp.	71.97
Northern Electric	53.77
Can. Wire and Cable	452.96
	\$14,466.43

Works on Roof Falls 23 Feet, Hospitalized

An Acton man, John Drysdale, 185 Macdonald Blvd., suffered shock, lacerations and possible chest injuries Thursday afternoon of last week when he slipped while working on the roof of the Tyler garage, and fell 23 feet to the floor of the garage.

He was treated by Dr. Kenney of Acton and sent to Guelph General hospital for observation.

Candlelight Setting For Carol Service

Two services were held at Acton United church Christmas day, and a candlelight service of music Christmas Eve.

There were mostly children in the congregation for a special children's service at 9:30 a.m. Adults partook of the sacrament of Holy Communion at the 10 o'clock service.

In an attractive setting of candlelight, organist and choirmaster George Elliott directed a program of carols on Christmas Eve.

The program was preceded by an organ recital including seasonal music by Handel, Bach and Willan.

The program was divided into sections for the Advent, the Holy Night, the nativity, lullabies for the Christ Child and traditional carols with soloists, the junior choir, senior choir and congregation taking part. During the offertory Mr. Elliott played several selections from Haydn's Musical Clocks, a collection of times composed for a clockwork organ.

Forego Party To Aid Others

Employees of the Roxy Theatre provided Christmas joy for 35 local children this year. Manager Bill Leslie and his staff received a cheque from the theatre's head office for a party for themselves.

Instead, they turned the money over to the town office to buy gifts for children.

Roxy employees include Mrs. Fred Hunter, Rhona Haggitt, Rosealee Haggins, Shirley Mason, Joy Peal, Mrs. Henry Arbie, Dave Hunter and Clarence Prilove.

Fog Heavy, Road Icy Two Vehicles Collide

Minor damage was sustained when during reportedly heavy fog and an icy road on Sunday, cars driven by Andrew Theriault and Newton Fowler were in collision on Churchill Road north. Total damage was estimated at \$50.

Police reported Theriault failed to see the approaching Fowler car through the fog and the collision resulted.

Expected Plunge in Building Continues Pass Quarter Million in Current Year

As was indicated in the first six months of 1956, a sharp drop in construction here persisted to the end of the year with this year's quarter million dollar figure far behind the million and three quarters of 1955.

Permits for construction valued at \$279,000 were issued during 1955 with October permits of \$128,000 for the new school and \$80,000 for the Bank of Montreal, considerably improving the construction picture for the year.

Only \$59,500 in new construction was reported for the first half of

1956 compared with \$673,000 in the same period of 1955.

Last year's all-time record for local building was reached when an estimated \$1,755,000 in new building was reported for the 12 month period. Biggest part of this total was due to the residential growth.

Some permits issued in late 1955 were used for construction of homes in Lakeview subdivision which considerably increases the number of new homes actually built in 1956 with that year's permits not reflecting that construction.

Permits issued in June included one for an \$18,000 Fina service station which has not yet been started. January permits reached \$8,500, February \$3,000, April \$13,300, May \$6,500, June \$27,000, August \$11,300, September \$1,000, October \$211,400, and November \$500. No permits were issued in March, July or December.

Local officials reported difficulty in obtaining C.M.H.C. loans as partly responsible for the slow-down in construction activity.

St. Alban's Annual Candlelight, Carol Service Held Sunday

The annual candlelighting and carol service was held last Sunday evening in St. Alban's Anglican church. The service began with the candlelighting ritual taken by the rector, the Rev. Evan H. Jones, at the altar. The lights were extinguished for the commencement of the altar ceremony.

In the centre of the altar was placed the Christ candle and from this candle the light was carried to the 12 other candles representing the 12 apostles of the church. The two acolytes were V. Bristow and L. Duby. From the altar, candles, the light was carried to the standards attached to the pews in the nave of the church.

Following this, the junior and senior choirs sang the processional carol, Silent Night. The church was then lighted and the service proper began with the singing of a hymn. This was followed by the Bidding Prayer, read by the rector. Six scripture lessons based on Our Lord's Nativity were read.

Soloists were Vic Bristow and boys' chorists Andrew Knox, Edwin Spicer, Brian Barbeau and Bill Henry. The junior choir sang a Polish carol and How Far is it to Bethlehem. The junior and senior choirs were under the direction of Mrs. F. G. Oakes, organist and choir mistress.

Dump Day

Acton's crop of Christmas trees will be trucked to the dump on January 2, the day after New Year's, town foreman A. Kirkness said this week.

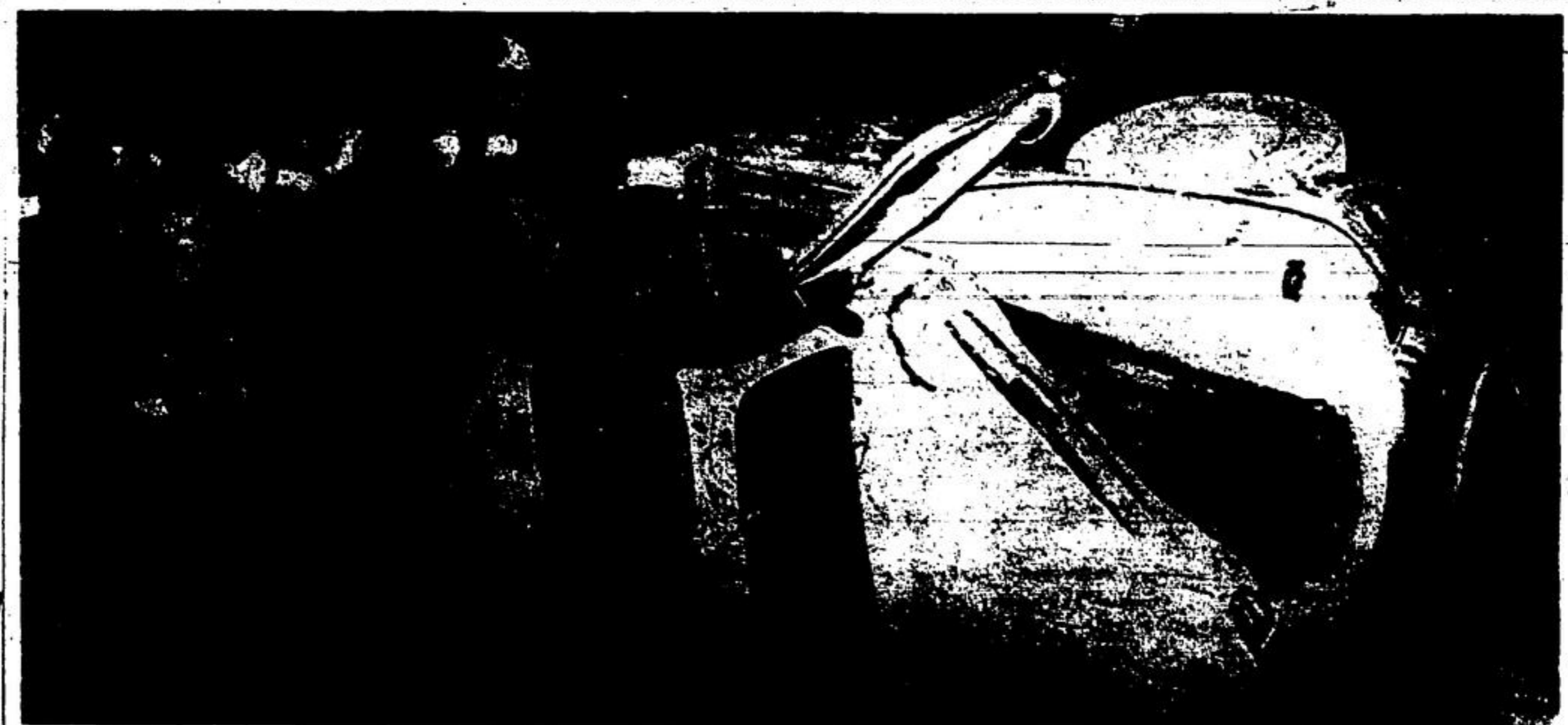
With garbage pick-ups scheduled for Monday, and Tuesday a holiday, the tree pick-ups can be facilitated on Wednesday if citizens co-operate, the foreman suggested.

Gifts for 300 At Legion Party

Santa Claus presented gifts to over 300 children at the annual Legion Christmas party. The Christmas tree was a focal point in the Legion auditorium last Saturday afternoon.

Each youngster received an orange and candy cane as well as a gift.

Acton Citizens' Band played for carols, led by John McHugh. He also sang several solos. Mrs. Bob Angell read out the names as the youngsters came up to Santa.



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Christmas Cantata Presented at Knox

A Christmas cantata, Memories of the Manger, was presented at Knox Presbyterian church Sunday evening under the direction of choir master and organist, Ted Hansen.

Soloists were Mrs. John Davidson, soprano, George Musselle, tenor and Norman Elliott, bass.

A film strip showing Christmas scenes was shown.

Rev. Andrew McKenzie spoke on the Names of Jesus at the Sunday morning service. Carols were sung by the large congregation.

320 Children Receive Gifts

Over 320 children of employees met Santa Claus at the annual Christmas party held by Beardmore's on Friday afternoon. With adults, there were about 375 in the public school auditorium for the event.

A three act vaudeville show was staged for the youngsters' amusement including a dog and a monkey act, jugglers George and Bambi Jean and magicians Billy and Kay Arnett.

R. R. Parker as master of ceremonies, read out the names as the children filed forward for their gifts. There were well filled Christmas stockings for those eight and under; baseballs and bats for boys nine and 10, umbrellas for girls nine and 10, knives and flashlights for boys 11 and 12, fountain pens for boys 13 and 14, and strings of pearls for the girls 13 and 14.

Estimate Damage To Two Cars at \$300

Damage totalling \$300 was estimated following a collision Friday between cars driven by Ronald Clow and Thys Oost on Main St. north. Drivers reported to police the Clow car was proceeding east and stopped to pick up a passenger. The Oost car, following, collided with the rear of the Clow car.

Police described the roads as being icy. No injuries were sustained.

That Ice in Arena Keeps Coming, Going

It keeps coming and going. A. Kirkness commented on the making of ice in Acton arena.

Ice was forming a reasonable base in the arena on Wednesday of this week but with higher temperatures predicted, there appeared little hope that the ice could be immediately available. "We need a couple of good cold days", the town foreman suggested to form the base and get skating underway. A flooding applied early Wednesday morning was still not completely frozen in late afternoon.

Meantime some local skaters are tempting the pond for their outdoor skating.

Christmas Gifts Won at Draw

With rain falling most unseasonably, Christmas gifts from merchants were given out at the regular Merchants' Draw on Saturday afternoon. A large crowd gathered beside the post office to hear the names of the lucky winners and Christmas music over the public address system.

The big cash award went to Mrs. Stan Matthews of R.R. 2, Acton, on a 20 per cent ticket.

Doris Duby took the regular \$5 award. Special gifts went to Mrs. Fred Lambert, Fred Stuckey, Mrs. K. A. Turkoz, Mrs. D. Mason and Mrs. Robert Sly. In every case, the first named for the prize was present to receive it.

M.C. Edwin Watson announced that the Chainway Store had now joined the group of participating merchants.

Five Masses On Christmas At St. Joseph's

Five Masses were celebrated at St. Joseph's church on Christmas morning—the most ever. The church was also filled for Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve.

Father Morgan, and Father MacDougall from the Jesuit Novitiate in Guelph, celebrated the Masses.

The church was beautifully decorated for the Christmas season with the traditional creche in a setting of evergreens, flowers and colored lights.

Baptist and Presbyterian Young Peoples' Societies joined in singing carols at the homes of sick and shut-ins Sunday.