

# The Acton Free Press.

Eighty-Second Year.—No. 34.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28th, 1937

Eight Pages—Seven Cents.



Flames illuminate sky as Coles barn is levelled

An early evening blaze claimed the 50 by 100 foot barn on the farm of Murray and Clarence Coles a mile and a half east of Acton Friday night. Cause of the fire is suspected to have been electrical, Fire Chief Newton revealed. Animals and some equipment were saved by neighbors.

## Report Final M.B. Approval Given Add Six Rooms to Bennett School

### Municipal Board Asks Certificate

The Ontario Municipal Board asked further information when they held a public hearing Friday on the application for approval of the additional amount expended on the paving program.

The Board asked a certificate from the engineer giving the reason for the additional cost. Application was also to be made to the Department of Highways for assurance they would approve their share of the additional cost of the program over original estimates.

The Board will give further consideration to the application when this information is prepared.

Representatives at the hearing were Solicitor C. F. Leatherland, Mayor Tyler and clerk-treasurer J. McGeachie. No individual ratepayers were present and no objections to the approval were filed.

### Maypole Tea Plan Of Friendly Circle

The Friendly Circle met in the Acton United church last week on November 16. Mrs. Shirley Armstrong presiding. During the business, it was decided to hold a Maypole Tea and baking sale on May 4 in the Sunday school room of Acton United church. It was also decided to have the fall bazaar on November 16.

Mrs. Jean Youngblat with Mrs. Marjory Struthers and their group had charge of the program for the evening. Mrs. Helen Little chose for her scripture reading the 13th chapter of St. John. Mrs. Olga Thompson was the pianist for the hymns. The Lord's Prayer was repeated in unison.

The host group conducted several lively games which were enjoyed by everyone, after which a special lunch was served with Valentine as the theme.

### They're Here!

Spring is coming! Mrs. James McEnery, R.R. 2, reported the first robins to the Free Press. She spotted the welcome birds Tuesday when the weather was balmy. Maybe Wednesdays cold sent them south again.

### Building Supply Firm In Main St. Building

Louis A. Bonnette, Cowanville, Que., who recently purchased the building formerly occupied by Billton and Perry on Main St. North is this week setting up a building supply business.

Mr. Bonnette explained he would be specializing in interior finishes and supplies.

It was earlier rumored some manufacturing might be connected with the business. Mr. Bonnette says it will be strictly a retail outlet with no manufacturing.

### Surprise Prize

George Barbeau was very surprised indeed when he discovered a pearl inside an oyster this week. Then he was very, very surprised indeed when he found another! He bought the tin in a local store and found the unadvertised "prize" Saturday. The pearls are both very small, he explains.

### David Dills Director Of Ontario Newspapers

At the annual convention of the Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, Friday and Saturday of last week, Gerry Craven of the Ridgetown Dominion was named president of the association for the coming year. David Dills was named to the board of directors.

Those attending sessions from the staffs of the Acton Free Press and Milton Canadian Champion were Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Dills, Mr. and Mrs. David Dills, Mr. Jim Dills, Mr. Hartley Coles, Mr. Murray Scovine and Mr. Roy Downs. Neither the Acton or Milton paper was entered in competition.

Final approval for an additional six classrooms at the partially built M. Z. Bennett school was received Friday and work will begin as soon as the frost is out of the ground. Contractors J. B. Mackenzie and Son, who are already working on the new school, which is to be completed by Easter, had previously been engaged to build the extension when approval was received.

Town clerk J. McGeachie received the approval from the Municipal Board last week.

Flowers are being poured this week in the first section of the new school. Eventually, terrazzo flooring will be laid in the new corridors and washrooms and vinyl tile in the classrooms.

The six additional classrooms,

which will continue to stretch the 12 classroom school in a straight line along Acton Blvd., are to be completed by the end of August. One of these is to be a kindergarten room.

When the new school in the east of the town is completed, arrangements will be made for youngsters to attend the most convenient of the two schools to their homes. Elmer Smith has been named principal of the new M. Z. Bennett school. G. W. McKenzie continues as principal of the present school.

Classes have been conducted in the Legion St. Albans parish hall basement and Knox church since part of the old school was destroyed by fire last fall.

## Plan First Aid Course Will Form Brigade Later

Plans for the commencement of a St. John Ambulance Association first aid course were finalized at the special meeting in Acton town hall on Tuesday evening. Tentative plans have been made to hold the lectures and demonstrations on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m., beginning March 5.

Mr. Jeffrey of the St. John Ambulance Brigade from Hamilton was present to outline procedure for holding the first aid course and, at a later date, the formation of a

St. John Brigade. Questions governing attendance of shift workers at the regular classes were discussed and answered. Ladies interested in first aid work were present and their requirements in the brigade were outlined.

The instructor appointed by the Association to conduct the first aid course is Jack Hunter of Guelph.

Original executive is composed of Robert Hart, president, Rino Blanda, secretary.

## Outstanding Lecturer Engaged by Chamber

The days of "easy selling" are over, says George W. Allen, outstanding lecturer whose address here next Monday evening is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Tickets are being sold this week for the talk which will be of interest and much value to all business men and women.

Mr. Allen has for 33 years been directing and instructing classes in salesmanship and advertising for the Toronto Board of Education. He was former editor and advertising manager of the Canadian Gas Journal and is one of the foremost men in the Canadian advertising and sales field today. He has been connected with advertising since 1898.

He introduced the first course in scientific salesmanship in Kitchener Waterloo. For 14 years he directed the advertising course for Shaw schools. He has worked with Consumers' Gas Company and has been engaged to make sales engineering surveys.

Having retired from most of his varied active pursuits, he gives most of his time to sales counseling and public lectures. Many large firms have used Mr. Allen's talks and many Chambers of Commerce before Acton have heard his special addresses on the subject of better selling.

## Acton Y.M.C.A. On Honor Roll

For the third year in a row Acton Y.M.C.A. was placed on the honor roll of the International Committee for World Service. Acton took its place with the 60 other North American Associations on the list by raising over three times the Acton objective for World Service.

The largest single contribution to the total was made from the sale of lifeavers by the G. Y. club. The Ladies Auxiliaries and the Ys Men's club also took part in the fund raising.

The money goes to help develop Y.M.C.A. work in underdeveloped countries and such projects as demonstration centers for agricultural teaching in South America, Homes for Orphan Boys in Korea and India and trade schools in South Africa and Ethiopia, all of which are directed by Y.M.C.A. secretaries.

## First Junior Hi-Y Dance Held

The Junior Hi-Y club held its first dance party on Saturday afternoon when about 30 students from the high school and public schools attended.

The girls intend to sponsor Saturday afternoon dances every other week in an effort to raise funds to build a swimming dock for the town park.

At the regular weekly meeting of the club on Monday new officers were elected. President is Ann Watkins, vice-president Mary Hunter, secretary Katherine Kirkness, treasurer Judy Sargent and membership convener Edith Francisco. Margaret Sumner will continue to serve as program chairman for the group.

## Teachers at Conference Students Have Holiday

The entire high school staff attended sessions of a conference arranged by the Secondary School Teachers' Federation Thursday while the students had a day's vacation. Thursday Teachers and principals from the entire district, including all the suburbs of Toronto and the adjoining counties, attended lectures and discussion of new concepts in classroom discipline and the teaching of humanities in Bathurst Heights and Etobicoke high schools.

## Badminton Club Loses Matches with Galt

The badminton club at the Y.M.C.A. last Saturday journeyed to Galt to play the Y.W.C.A. for a match with the Galt club. Acton lost the match eight games to four.

This is the fourth match for the club, having lost two and won two. The next match will likely be a return game with the Galt club in Acton. Acton players were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. Garnet Myles, Roy Gatanby, George Williams, Lill Nolan and June Brayshaw.



Firemen Pour Water To Control Spread

Firemen battled to prevent the spread of flames until midnight. A silo one-third full of ensilage was saved. Chief Newton reported traffic hampered the fire-truck trip to the fire. Coffee and sandwiches were served to firemen at the scene.

### Tax Levying Changed

Local officials says not yet been able to interpret what the recently promulgated provincial budget will mean to Acton taxpayers.

A telegram received today by Clerk J. McGeachie from W. K. Warrander, Minister of Municipal Affairs, reports the method of levying 1937 taxes has been changed and it would be inadvisable to strike the tax rate until the department advises of the amendments and grants. According to the telegram, advice on this follows shortly.

## Early Evening Farm Blaze Levels Barn All Pigs, Dairy Herd, Horses Rescued

An early evening blaze completely levelled the barn on the farm of Murray and Clarence Coles Friday, a mile and a half east of Acton. Possible cause was reported as electrical by Chief J. Newton.

Damage estimated at \$20,000 was reported by fire chief Newton, who explained the estimate would not cover replacement. Rescued from the blaze were 36 pigs, a dairy herd of 46 cattle including calves, and some horses. A tractor as well as harness and milling equipment was also saved.

Lost in the fire was a hammer mill, feed chopper and quantity of grain and hay. Firemen were able to save a silo about one-third full of ensilage.

Apparently Clarence Coles was going to the milk house when he looked back and saw the fire in the back of the barn. Enough time was allowed to get to the removal of equipment and live stock. Water was pumped from the creek by firemen in their efforts to check spreading of the blaze.

Flames from the fire lighted the sky and were visible for a considerable distance. Spectators reported feeling heat from the fire at the highway.

### Junior Play-Offs

Acton Juniors will likely play the winner of the current Chedoke-Wingham series, in about a week, team officials learned today.

### Scottish Reels Fast and Furious

A most enjoyable evening was spent by the Scottish Country Dance club on Friday, February 22 in the Acton Parish Hall with the best attendance to date, apart from the St. Andrew's Night party.

The reels, fast and furious were exhilarating and were interspersed with the ever-popular Gay Gordons and Dashing White Sergeant, the white Petronella was resented. There were waltzes and military two steps and a sing song of Scottish favorites to please every taste.

The highlight of the evening was the showing of two movies which Al Long had taken of the Burns Supper held at the Treason, Guelph on January 25.

Mr. Fleming was in charge of the program. Mrs. George was at the piano.

It was decided to hold two more meetings this season, March 13 and April 12, the latter to be a Calcutta.

Among the guests from Guelph were Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Connal, Mr. and Mrs. Currie, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Craighton, Mr. and Mrs. Forsyth, Dr. and Mrs. Rufam, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Patters, Mr. Marwin, Mr. Jack Croach, Miss Janet Spicer, Miss Eleanor Sandford, Mr. Whitmarsh and Mrs. W. J. Beatty. The display will be held in the parish hall next Monday evening.

## W. D. E. Smith Y Board Head

On Thursday evening the Board of Directors of the Acton Y.M.C.A. met to discuss the duties for each member for the coming year.

The following officers were assigned: president, W. D. E. Smith, first vice-president, P. Caddick, second vice-president, George Hollinger, secretary, J. MacMillan, treasurer, J. Rogers, building chairman, M. Allan, public relations, William Sproston, adult program chairman, H. Rogers, children's program, L. Bulmer, physical committee chairman, M. Van Hemmen, world service and Christian emphasis chairman, J. Fleming, and finance chairman, M. Jeffrey.

## Turkey Dinner For Anniversary

Barnockburn Women's Institute celebrated the 60th anniversary of Women's Institutes by having a turkey dinner for their members. Mrs. Cam Sinclair was hostess to the group.

Those present included Mrs. Geo. Somerville, district president; Mrs. W. Linnam, branch president; Mrs. H. Wilkinson, Mrs. C. Storey, Mrs. W. Storey, Mrs. W. Rogell, Mrs. A. Brooks, Mrs. J. Fox, Mrs. S. Matthews, Mrs. S. Morrison, Mrs. A. Kerr, Mrs. D. Russell, Mrs. W. J. McDonald, Miss Marion Porter, Mrs. J. Anthony and Mrs. T. Gordon.

After a very short business meeting, the rest of the evening was spent playing court whist. The winners were Mrs. Somerville and Mrs. Sinclair.

## Planning Board Approves Church Application, Lease for Sales Lot

Acton Planning Board Tuesday evening ruled it would approve the application of the Pentecostal church for land separation providing the vendor deeds a 66 foot right-of-way to the town as a street.

The property is located beside the Christian Reform property east of Churchill road. The right-of-way would be an extension east of Peel St.

Following discussion the board also granted approval of an application of E. E. Barr to lease a property at the corner of Mill and King Sts. for a new and used car lot providing plans for the lighting of the lot are submitted to the board for approval.

Attacking provisions of the proposed zoning by-law, being studied by the board, Theon Jones pointed-out they could stifle improvements to the business section through the parking lot requirement.

Planning Consultant P. Alan Deacon emphasized the by-law would apply only to new ventures in requiring off-street parking be provided within 500 feet of the store.

Emphasizing the importance of off-street parking, the consultant pointed-out they could stifle the complete answer. "It can only be done with a concerted effort on the part of all who are seeking a solution to keep the business section good assessment value."

He noted the possibility of Chamber of Commerce operated lots, establishment of a parking authority, or co-operation on

part of neighboring merchants in the use of rear yards.

Looking ahead the consultant suggested it might be possible to divert No. 7 highway traffic, making Bower Ave. and Church St. one-way streets and leaving Mill St. as a large parking lot. The catch would be No. 25 highway that will feed No. 401, the caution of

## 50th Anniversary of Scouting Observed With Parade, Service

The 50th anniversary of the founding of scouting, and the 100th anniversary of the birth of scoutmaster Lord Baden-Powell, were observed with a special church service and parade in Acton Sunday afternoon. Acton Citizens' Band accompanied the group and color party which marched from the Scout Hall to Acton United church.

Parents and friends also attended the service.

Rev. Gordon Adams presided and his wife, Mrs. Adams, the Guide field commissioner, led in the responsive reading. Cubmaster Murray Soynne read the Scripture. Cubmaster Rev. Ray Costerus gave the address, with the topic "Be Prepared." He urged the boys and girls to be prepared for anything and to give their best. He referred to the great brotherhood of scouting.

About 50 Brownies attended with their leaders, Mrs. Boardman and Mrs. L. MacSwain; about 15 Guides with Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Wright; about 65 Cubs with Mrs.

## Lunch, Presentations End Night School

Night school classes concluded Monday and Tuesday evenings when the various groups brought lunch and brewed tea or coffee in the high school. Presentations were made to the instructors at the pleasant season of instruction concluded.

Plans were made each evening for the display of typing, millinery, upholstery, weaving, metalcraft, oil painting and show with commentary of sewing. Miss Bolla Maye Roszell is in charge. Arrangements were made for lunch, which is under the convenship of Mrs. W. J. Beatty. The display will be held in the parish hall next Monday evening.



Color Party Leads Parade

Members of Acton's Scout, Guide, and Brownie organizations attended special services Sunday. Color party was Max Haggott, Paul McGeachie, Laurie Duby.