The Acton Free Press.

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Gibbons Fetes Home Run Ace Leads Cavalcade to Stadium

Over 200 children from Acton Legion Minor Sports baseball league, managers, coaches and car drivers, were guests of Rudi Shaeffer, general manager of the Toronto Maple Leaf ball club, in the stadium in Toronto on Tuesday evening, to see Denis Gibbons, 14 year old athlete from Acton, present Rocky Nelson, home run king of the Toronto Maple Leafs, with a trophy.

Denis, 14 year old son of Mr and Mrs. Neil Gibbons, Main Street, Acton, was the winner of a contest recently in which he guessed the day, inning and within one minute of the time that Rocky Nelson, ace first baseman and home run king of the Toronto Club, would rack up his 35th homer.

Wins Prizes

For his efforts in winning the contest, Denis was presented with two box seats for the balance of this year and all next season, at the stadium. On Tuesday he presented a trophy to the Toronto slugger and could invite all his friends in the Acton Minor Sports to the game in Toronto as his guests.

Meets Rocky

Young Denis, after meeting Rocky in the players' room, posed for photographers and chatted with the home run king, much to the envy of all the children who grouped around the screened-in section separating the players from the fans.

At 7.45 p.m. Denis presented Rocky Nelson with a trophy for knocking his 35th home run while standing on the infield with Rocky. The couple were cheered by the thousands in the stands attending the game. Down the third base line section the Acton lads, between munching on peanuts, hot dogs and drinking cold pop, waved banners and cheered for their two heroes until the echoes could be heard far across Lake Ontario.

Motorcade

A motorcade of 35 cars loaded with children and led by an O.P.P. cruiser, left Acton Park at six o'clock and headed for Maple Leaf Stadium.

Co-operation of Provincial Police, Brampton police and Toronto City police, made the journey a safe and steady one.

Met at the Humber bridge by two motorcycle officers of the Toronto force, with red lights flashing on motorcycles and sirens wailing the motorcade from Acton was led along the lake front as officers waved cars to one side to allow the proud and smiling youngsters from Acton a safe, clear passage through the city.

At the stadium, each child from Acton was supplied with a hot dog and cold drink through the courtesy of the Acton Council, and soon after were dipping into their own pocket money for the extra treats they consumed.

While Toronto and Buffalo played ball on the diamond the tiny Acton rooters cheered themselves hoarse as they attempted to encourage the Toronto team to victory. They were disappointed as Buffalo won 7-1.

Heading Home

At the end of the game when the scoreboard showed Toronto had lost to Buffalo 7-1, and fans were racing for the exits Minor Sports Baseball managers were rounding up youngsters to get them to the cars parked at the east end of the stadium.

The two Toronto police officers returned after the game with their silver motorcycles and led the motorcade to the city limit.

Drivers reported that many an excited child dozed off soon after the cars left the city.

For many a child this was their first trip to Maple Leaf Stadium and an occasion to well remember as they were guests of the Toronto Ball Club.

—Staff Photo

DENIS GIBBONS receives his season box seat tickets from Rudy Shaeffer, general manager of the Toronto Maple Leaf Ball Club as part payment for winning the Rocky Nelson Home Run Contest. Denis met members of the Toronto ball club and presented Rocky with a trophy as over 200 Acton fans in the stands cheered the young Acton athlete. For winning the contest Denis wins two box seats for the balance of this season and all of next.

—Staff Photo

THE HOMERUN KING of the Toronto Ball Club received a trophy from Denis Gibbons, 14-year-old schoolboy from Acton, at Maple Leaf Stadium on Tuesday night of this week. Rocky Nelson, star home run hitter of the ball club was presented with the trophy prior to game time. Denis won the Rocky Nelson Home Run Contest and guessed within a minute the day, inning and hour the batter would hit his 35th homer.

Gift to County

Offer 100 Acres for Conservation

Halton County council has been asked to accept a gift of 100 acres of farm-land, for reforestation and conservation purpises.

At the Tuesday afternoon meeting, solicitors Ryrie and McCullough of Oakville, writing on behalf of clients Dr. Juliet Turney and Mrs. Hazel Mathews, asked if council would accept the property which is located on the Base Line of Trafalgar between the fifth and sixth lines.

The finance and agricultural committees are to study the proposition and report at the September meeting.

Asks Salary Hike

Governor E. G. Ryder of the county jail, Milton, appeared to ask council for higher guard salaries. He pointed out his failure to hire an additional guard since April, because of the $2,800 starting salary.

Warden William Card, Oakville, reviewed the salaries had been studied earlier in the year and found equal to others in the Province. Reeve Tom Millward, Bronte, chairman of the finance committee, said his committee would meet with the Governor soon to review the situation.

Vote Raise

Council refused a request from Magistrate K. M. Langdon for an increase in salary as judge of the Juvenile and Family Court.

Formal acceptance of the Consultative Committee on high school education's recent report was given at Tuesday's meeting. The committee had recommended the present North Halton high school district board remain in its present setup.

Question Fees

Trafalgar township queried charges to the individual municipalities by the Crown Attorney, explaining they thought that the Crown Attorney was paid at the county level. Council agreed to have Mr. Russell of the Attorney-General's department attend the September meeting to clarify the procedures.

A resolution from the County of Peel asking an amendment to the Child Welfare Act was approved. The resolution would give Judges permission to extend wardship for brilliant students until the age of 21, for the furthering of their education.

Discuss Trades

The Special Annexation committee of council was asked to meet with the Wentworth County committee to discuss adjustments of liabilities and assets on that portion of East Flamboro now in the town of Burlington. The January 1 annexation had brought a $13,000,000 assessment into the County from Wentworth.

Other business at council's Tuesday meeting:

★ Council is to give notice to all Halton municipalities that in September, a by-law to license nursing homes will be presented. Each municipality is to be asked for approval of the scheme, which is expected to help in obtaining federal welfare grants.

Give Donation?

★ Deputy-Reeve Jack Greer of Acton asked if individual municipalities should give donations to schools for retarded children, noting a recent request for aid from the Sunshine School in Milton. The Warden advised that the Ontario Mayors and Reeves were presently asking the Provincial Department of Education for grants to all such schools, which would relieve individual municipalities.

★ Arrangements were made for paying half the construction costs of a bridge on the Peel-Halton town line near Terra Cotta. Peel County is doing the work.

Architects Hired

★ Three readings were given an agreement to hire Shore and Moffat, architects, for the additions and alterations to Halton Centennial Manor.

★ A Burlington suggestion that the County assume all base line roads separating townships for uniform maintenance, was handed to the roads and planning committees.

★ Council indicated it didn't concur with the Bruce County resolution asking an increase from 50 per cent. to 80 per cent. in snow plowing subsidies.

King Gets Job

★ Of seven tenders received, council chose the one of King Paving, Oakville, for the sum of $73,213.25 for the construction of asphalt pavements.

★ Plans for the improvement of the approach to the C.N.R. tracks near Stewartstown on the Seventh Line were approved, and the engineer was instructed to apply to the Board of Transport Commissioners for approval to do the work.

Public Hearing

Clerk J. McGeachie announced this week that the public hearing regarding the application by the Corporation of the Town of Acton for annexation of parts of the Township of Esquesing has been set for Friday, September 12 at 11 a.m.

The hearing will be held in the Council Chambers and all persons wishing to speak in support of or in opposition to the applications will be heard at this time.

No Halton Deer Season Pleas Farmer, Petition

Halton will again this year have no open deer season, it was learned Tuesday afternoon at County council's August meeting in the Court House.

Of Halton's neighboring counties, Wellington favored an open season, Wentworth was against, and no reply was received from Peel on the county's attitude there.

Campbellville farmer Reginald Austen appeared before council Tuesday with a petition signed by many Nassagaweya residents protesting any move by Halton to open the season to hunters. Mr. Austen reviewed that he spent the last season protecting his property against careless hunters who tore and shot down "no trespassing" signs, trespassed at will, and used "vile language" on both him and his wife.

Warden Card closed the matter when he reviewed that failure to announce an open season by July 1 meant the season was closed. The petition was filed with council anyway.

—Staff Photo

PETER HILTS celebrated his 91st birthday with friends and relatives, on Sunday, August 17. The nonagenarian has lived in the Acton district for 76 years and is presently living at Mrs. Smith's nursing home on Bower Avenue. He received many cards and gifts on his birthday.

Parks Board Sees Damage at Park Approves Change, Check Charge

The Board of Parks Management Tuesday night, after a survey of damage and indecent use of the change stations in Prospect park, decided to charge 10 cents for the use of the change stations including checking privileges.

Board members heard complaints at the outset of the meeting from caretaker Peter Edge on the use the public was making of the newly constructed building and later went to the park to view the situation. A door moulding had been pried off, locks had been loosened, change rooms had been used as a lavatory, toilet controls had been tampered with, metal sheathed doors had been dented and other damage done.

Need Supervision

Noting the need for continual supervision of the use of the building, members agreed to the change and check charge enabling the attendance of a full time attendant. The lavatories, reached from the outside of the building, will remain open without charge.

Trustee A. Irwin noted the need for additional benches in the change rooms. It was also explained the check room had not been operating since five days, and resulted in revenue of $6.90.

A letter from the Crown Attorney noted a recent drowning in Trafalgar township and suggested municipalities should approve by-laws requiring lifeguards at similar swimming pools. The letter was filed.

A discussion on liability coverage for any accidents in the park noted the difficulty of determining the beginning of park land and the Beardmore land. It was explained the Beardmore firm owned the land to the high water mark but this point was not known.

Trustee R. R. Parker suggested the Beardmore firm should have some agreement with the town that they were operating the swimming in the lake as part of the town's recreational facilities to avoid any liability on the company in case of accident.

The town, holders of the liability policy, was to be asked to discuss the problem with their solicitor.

Turn Over Equipment

Y's Men's Club representatives, J. Price and D. Docherty, appeared and by letter sought to turn over to the board the playground equipment and diving pier donated by the Y's Men's Club.

The representatives noted their desire to be sure the equipment was in the control of the board to avoid any liability to the club in case of accidents.

Coverage on the swimming boom was complicated by the fact it was presently on Beardmore property since it was in the water. The relative merits of the boom were discussed and members noted some complaints that it constituted a hazard.

"As long as there's six inches of water in the lake, it constitutes a hazard," trustee Parker concluded since it was possible to drown in that much.

The town's liability policy was to be investigated prior to official acceptance of the equipment, presently covered in a policy of the Y's Men's Club.

Park for Fall Fair

W. Thompson and N. Braida, representing the Acton Fall Fair Board, asked use of the park for the annual fair on September 19 and 20. Use of the park was granted at a cost of $30. Members understood the town provided an annual grant of $200 with $50 returned for use of the park.

Fair Board representatives agreed to this arrangement but were not certain they were to receive the $200 this year. "The mayor told us we'd get $150 this year," one representative noted. A check of the approved budget showed $200 allowed and the arrangements were concluded.

Councillor W. McLeod noted the arena committee of council was being charged for the power used in the booth and change stations. He suggested a meter should be installed in the booth. Many members pointed out the Women's Institute owned the booth. Mr. McLeod noted the meter had already been ordered installed.

Account Delayed

An account for installation of the sewer and water service to the park and change stations totalling $2,045.42 was delayed pending clarification on the number of man holes installed.

A cheque for $50 from the Acton Minor Sports group for use of the park was received and the Board approved a grant of $25 to the group for their work in Acton.

Secretary Mrs. Fryer reported gate receipts to last Sunday totalled $849.15.

A by-law amending the present charging by-law allowing a charge on public holidays as well as Sunday was approved with three readings.

Peter Hilts, 91 Last Sunday District Resident 76 Years

Peter Hilts celebrated his 91st birthday on Sunday, August 17, when many friends and relatives dropped in to offer congratulations.

In the regular festive fashion, Mr. Hilts along with his friends enjoyed birthday cake and sandwiches over a cup of tea.

Cards and gifts were received by the 91 year old man who sat chatting about the comparison of the modern mechanized methods of farming against the old fashioned ones.

The nonagenarian pointed out that the horses were cheaper to operate than modern tractors and less trouble to handle.

Born in Coningsby, Ontario, Mr. Hilts moved to Meaford when he was 10 years old and came to Acton as a boy of 15. He has lived in this district ever since.

Working was always Mr. Hilts' hobby and he never retired until two years ago when failing health forced his retirement.

A 50 acre farm on the third line about two miles from Acton was home to Mr. Hilts and his wife, the former Ellie Swackhammer whom he married in Acton's old Congregational Church. Mrs. Hilts died in 1944 and Mr. Hilts continued on the homestead until recently.

Now in fair health, Mr. Hilts enjoys a chat about olden days and at 91 admits that he has never danced a step in his life but always enjoyed seeing others having a good time.

A quiet unassuming man, Mr. Hilts is described as a person who never pulled a mean trick on anyone in his life and always willing to help a person in need.

Described as an excellent worker, he worked in Hotchens' Bakery for ten years.

Believing in shanks ponies, Mr. Hilts, until a year ago, could be seen walking the two mile stretch from his home on the third line into Acton, just to enjoy the fresh air.

Now living on Bower Ave., the nonagenarian has never smoked and is a teetotaller, he has subscribed to the Free Press for a number of years and still enjoys the hometown paper that keeps him abreast with local news.

—Staff Photo

SIR FRANK ENGLEDOW, a retired professor of Agriculture from Cambridge and one of six trustees of the Lord Nuffield Foundation, visited this week with Mac Sprowl, R.R. 4, Acton. In 1954, Mr. Sprowl was one of two young Canadian farmers selected to study agriculture for six months under the Lord Nuffield Foundation Travelling Scholarship in Agriculture. The two are pictured above as they examine one of the Sprowl herd. Sir Frank is touring Canada visiting former scholarship winners.

Building Permits Nearly Double Last Year's Total

Building permits issued so far this year total almost double last year's already. Theron Jones, the building inspector, released figures Monday that indicated permits taken out so far during 1958 have a total value of $931,935.

During the first eight months of 1957, the total was $195,320, climbing to $493,145 by the year of the year.

Big items on this year's list are $305,000 for H. K. Porter plant and several permits for Thomas and Thomas for construction in the Glenlea subdivision.

Biggest months last year were September, with a permit issued to Thomas and Thomas for construction, and June, including the permit for the Pentecostal church.

Break-down for months this year follows: January, $10,900; February, $398,400; March, $488,300; April, $1,000; May, $5,000; June $12,785; July, $12,850; August until the 15th, $2,700.

—This week when no children showed up at the wading pool at the park, the shivering attendant closed up shop and went home.

Bruce Andrews Takes Highland Games Win

Bruce Andrews placed first in one distance race and second in another when he took part in the Highland Games at Fergus.

Phil Caddick and some of the members of the Junior Pipe Band were among the spectators at the games.

In the two mile race, Alan Claremont of Guelph won with 9 minutes, 45 seconds, followed by Bruce Andrews. Bruce headed the runners in the one-mile event to cross the line at 4 minutes, 26 seconds.

Sunday Concert

Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, the Acton Citizens' Band will present a concert in Oakville. Band members will be marching through part of the town to the park on the lakeshore where they will be the only band playing during the afternoon.

The Oakville band will be making a return visit here.

Beer Supply Low In Acton Outlets

Beer drinkers in Acton may have to go elsewhere for their beverage after this weekend according to reports from local hotels and Acton Legion.

Local managers report their supply is running low and they expect to be entirely out of the beverage by the end of this week.

The retail supply store closed at 4.30 p.m. Wednesday of last week as their supply was exhausted, but remained open a few days longer than a number of neighboring stores.

The strike, 12 days old today, has put a stop to all deliveries and has affected more than 1,200 workers throughout Ontario.

The workers walked off the jobs after the company rejected non-monetary demands in a new contract. The union also seeks increases ranging from $9 to $14 per week and a reduction of the work week from 40 to 35 hours.

Negotiators for five breweries will join Brewers Warehousing representatives to-night (Thursday) in an attempt to seek a settlement to cover both the plants and distributing outlets.

Fix Church, Home Hope for Pastor

During the summer, willing volunteers have undertaken an ambitious program of renovations at the Baptist church and parsonage.

A new gas furnace is now installed in the church with more adequate heating for the winter. Roofing was replaced. The church is even more attractive inside with new lighting fixtures topping off the work of rewiring.

The men of the church are still working at their projects but are nearing completion.

The ladies are looking forward to the end of blown fuses when they try to make a cup of tea following a meeting!

New flooring has been laid in some of the rooms at the parsonage. The members of the congregation are hoping that a full-time minister will be assigned to their church shortly.

—Just a month till Acton Fair. It's on Friday and Saturday, September 19 and 20.

—Rotarians have been enjoying shuffleboard at the home of member Amos Mason following their summer meetings. They are expecting a visit from the District Governor early in September.