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Council Committee, School Board Probe Proposed 10 Room Addition

The Ontario School Trustees' Council will present a resolution at their annual meeting in Port Arthur, Ont., asking the Department of Education to share in the cost of library books by grant as they do in the case of text books, trustees were informed at the regular meeting of the Public School Board last Thursday evening.

This action was the result of a motion carried by the Acton board at their last regular meeting, forwarded to the Ontario Trustees' Council, the Department of Education and Inspector Bernhard.

The Board also received a reply from the Department of Education explaining percentages on grants and outlining their policy on books.

Members failed to see the point of the letter and felt the Department was side-stepping the issue. They were satisfied, however, with the response their resolution provoked and thought some action on grants for library books might be forthcoming after the Ontario Trustees' annual meeting.

Meet with Council
Chairman C. W. Bradley informed trustees that he, along with the finance committee and the property committee chairman, met with the finance committee of council on the previous Monday to deal with the erection of a 10-room addition at the Robert Little school. He said council had been most co-operative and both sides of the issue had been dealt with at length.

The Board had stressed the immediate need for the addition at the school and council's committee had discussed mutual financial problems with them.

The finance committee of council did not commit themselves. They will give their recommendation to council after further study.

Discuss Salaries
Property chairman M. Smith asked the board to reconsider the salary of both caretakers, which was increased by \$150 per annum at the last meeting. "I don't think, in the light of what has been given in the way of increases to teachers, that we are being fair to the caretakers," said Mr. Smith.

Members wanted to know how their salaries compared to caretakers' in nearby centres. Mr. Smith had comparative figures for one Georgetown school which showed a higher wage scale and he indicated that in that particular case, unlike the local caretakers, the Georgetown custodians did no maintenance work.

The Board, after further discussion and on the recommendation of Mr. Smith, resumed their former motion of a \$150 increase, and on the motion of W. Wolfe and E. Marks, increased caretakers' salaries by \$300 per annum.

Schools Report
Principal E. Smith reported that only three and a half days of teacher time had been lost at the M. Z. Bennett school since the term started. He also recommended that the board:

(1) Erect a sidewalk 18 feet long by eight feet wide at the north door of the school to prevent tracking of mud into classrooms.

(2) Purchase a movie projector, noting the children have raised \$150 for classroom equipment.

(3) Secure teachers to give PT instruction to grades seven and eight in the M. Z. Bennett school next year.

Principal Smith informed the Board that he and Principal McKenzie met with the inspector regarding the proposed testing program for schools. Members indicated approval when informed cost for both schools would be \$90.00 and the material would last for years.

The object of the tests is to establish a grade study by which the Acton schools can be compared to others in the province.

Principal G. McKenzie recommended that the Board look for teachers early this year and reported the first opportunity would be in March.

He also notified trustees that Miss I. Anderson would be retiring this year after 47 years' service. Miss Anderson was hired in November, 1918.

Other Business
The Board also:

• Appointed W. Wolfe vice-chairman for 1959.

• Appointed D. A. Nichols and W. McKay as their representatives on the Acton Public Library Board for a period of two and

Zero Walk

Think the weather has been too bad to go outside? Complaining about the roads and the temperature?

A senior citizen of Rockwood and the senior correspondent of the Free Press, Richard Harris, tells us he found himself, up in Guelph without a ride home late Monday evening. He set out on foot and walked nearly to Eden Mills before he got a ride the rest of the way home.

That's an old-fashioned solution to an old-fashioned winter—and one not many of us would have even considered.

Seeks Costs on 10 Room Addition Council Returns Motion to Board

Council withheld approval of a resolution submitted by the Acton Public School Board to proceed with a construction by-law for a 10-room school addition at the Robert Little public school and recommended the motion be returned to the board for further information regarding costs.

This action followed a lengthy discussion by council members Tuesday evening at their regular meeting, when the school board by letter requested council's approval for the 10-room proposed addition.

Following tentative approval by the Department of Education, Reeve J. H. Guy, in the absence of councillor J. T. Frost, chairman of the finance committee, gave the chairman's report of a special meeting of the finance committee with school board members, at which time details of the proposed addition were discussed.

Delay Impossible
Mr. Guy informed council that questions had been raised at the special meeting with regard to delaying the school addition for a year due to the conditions at

Milton and also the financial position of the town of Acton.

The noted, however, that after a discussion with the board members, the necessity of the new proposed addition was certified.

The reeve informed council that when the board was asked to defer the proposed building for one year, it was stressed that delay would necessitate staggered hours for school children and more than 35 children in each classroom.

The school survey taken some months ago by the school board was reviewed. Mr. Guy noted it showed a definite need for additional classrooms by September as there would be 77 new children without a classroom at the Robert Little school by September of this year.

Two New Teachers
Mr. Guy also pointed out the board has informed the finance committee that two additional teachers would have to be added to the staff next fall. Whether the new addition is built or not.

During the special meeting, it was pointed out by the school board that the old brick section of the present school was condemned and at present three of the rooms were still being used.

The reeve also informed council that the board had predicted that the proposed school addition could be built for less than the tentative approval price of \$200,000 per annum as several existing conveniences were to be utilized in the addition.

Affect Mill Rate
It was also stressed to council that during the special meeting with the school board, chairman Harold had informed the board members that if the proposed addition was built and ready for occupancy in the fall the mill rate would be affected for the last few months of the year, since the budget would be set in the near future for the year.

Following Mr. Guy's account of the special meeting, council discussed the matter further. A suggestion was made by councillor Hugh Lowe

that possibly the board would consent to a delay in the building for six months until it was possible to see what the conditions at Milton would be.

Mr. Lowe also suggested that possibly a room at the high school might be utilized if there was one available for a public school class as a temporary measure.

Councillor B. H. Rechin agreed with his colleague in his suggestion, if there was a room available.

High School Full
Reeve Guy informed the council the high school was, in the same position as the public school, only they have jumped ahead and have started their new addition.

Council questioned how many people in Acton were directly affected by Milton and the clerk informed them approximately 244.

Councillor F. Walls felt council was his opinion the board should be advised to hold off any building until March until the position at Milton could be clarified.

Mr. Guy pointed out that the school board had been told the finance committee didn't have a "clue" as to what the mill rate increase would be this year but were certain they would be one.

Councillor Rechin repeated "I would like to see them carry on for one year and let the old school stand in view of the town's financial position."

Majority Voted
The mayor addressed council and said: "The majority of us are shocked when we find out that only 19 per cent of pupils complete school."

"Is it because we are asking teachers to teach crowded classes?" would it not be better to consider the future of our future generations regarding education and provide them with adequate facilities?"

If our education, as stated by the board chairman at the nomination meeting, is second to none, then let us keep it that way.

The children will be educated if the board would do this. *Continued on Page Two*

Open Blocked Roads After Six Day Seige

Roads north of Hillsburgh in Erin Township were finally opened to traffic after being blocked for six days when workmen, using three V-type plows and a 27-ton bulldozer, broke through on Wednesday of this week.

Henry Wheeler, road superintendent for Erin township, told the Free Press this morning. "The men were wonderful. Although they were hampered by fog and driving sleet, they continued to press on until the job was completed."

Mr. Wheeler noted the workers were just as anxious as he was to get the roads opened to traffic to assure the residents of the area fuel supply and milk deliveries.

Earlier this week, the road superintendent had reported he expected to break through the drifts Monday night, but the plows alone were unable to budge the snow and a bulldozer was called to the scene.

The snow in the Erin area is considered to be the worst in many years by some of the older residents of the district.

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By Phone

Long Distance Call Re-Unites Relatives After Five Years

A long distance telephone call from England to Acton this week caused much excitement and pleasure for Mrs. Bob Frank.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Close, brother and sister-in-law of Mrs. Frank and formerly of this community, called long distance from Farnham, England enquiring about Mrs. Frank's husband Bob who has been hospitalized.

Not having heard her relatives' voices in over five years, Mrs. Frank (the former Eileen Close) was both surprised and excited to hear from them.

Friday 13
Tomorrow (Friday 13th) will cause many superstitious residents much unrest as they attempt to avoid the bad omen under a black cat walking under a ladder, spilling salt and many others, during the 24 hour period.

The number 13 spells disaster to many people who suffer from illusions caused by a superstitious nature and this year will be three times as hard on these unfortunate people since Friday 13th appears next month and again in November, as well as tomorrow.

If 2001 see people dodging around a ladder, avoiding that black cat as it skulks across the street, wearing a pair of socks inside out or refusing to retrace their steps as well as many other odd quips, bear with them! It's Friday the 13th.

Largest Convention Of Weekly Newsmen
The annual convention of the Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association boasted the largest registration ever, at the Royal York Hotel last Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. David Dills represented the Acton Free Press and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Dills of Milton represented the Canadian Champion of Milton.

Don Ryder, the news editor, was official photographer for the convention.

Advertising manager Henry Dewaan and Milton news editor Roy Downs attended sessions Friday and Saturday.

David Dills was re-elected a director.

Committees to Investigate Artificial Ice Plant for Acton

An ice committee headed by E. Tyler Sr., consisting of J. Newson, C. Robart and A. Irwin, was given the chore of providing costs for artificial ice equipment.

Joe Hurst as chairman and George Haggart were appointed to represent the finance committee to inquire into the methods of financing the project. They were to investigate methods which had been used of raising funds in other centres for such a project.

The public relations committee consists of Don Ryder and Alex Johnson. The general administration of the project is headed by G. V. Barbeau and J. Bert Wood.

It was decided that all information pertaining to an artificial ice arena would be presented at the general meeting on Monday February 23 at which time suggestions from individuals would be asked for.

Committees Appointed
A building committee comprising W. J. McLeod, chairman, J. Ridley, M. Holmes and E. Tyler Jr. was appointed to investigate the present condition of the arena and also plans and prices for an entire new building.

The board of the Halton Centennial Manor opened eight tenders on the construction of the new \$900,000 addition to the Manor, at a meeting in the Milton Court House last night (Wednesday).

One bidder was selected and his tender is to be studied by the architect and Department of Welfare, before an announcement can be made. Following their approval, Halton county council will be asked to approve the bid.

The work proposed for the county home for the aged will double its capacity from 105 to 220 beds and include the addition of a 62-bed hospital wing and circular chapel.



VALENTINE'S DAY holds no particular interest for the twin boys pictured above, but no doubt in a few years some girl's hearts will be breaking over the two. Shown above, encased in a valentine heart are Brad, left and Gary, right, twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Martin, 81 Roseford Terrace, Acton. The youngsters are presently 13 months old.

Process 893,800 Gals. Tannery Sewage At Cost of \$201.60 For 24 Day Period

Extra labor costs involved in processing 893,800 gallons of Beardmore sewage at the Acton disposal plant during a 24-day period amounted to \$201.60, according to a report submitted by sewage superintendent A. Duby at the regular Public Utilities Commission meeting on Thursday, February 5.

Following the report, the secretary-treasurer was instructed to compare the additional hydro costs to be included with labor costs.

The commission agreed to convert the heating system at the disposal plant from the present space heater to an electrical system and advised the hydro department to do the work according to the engineer's specifications.

This action followed a report from R. V. Anderson and Associates, consulting engineers, following investigation of the plant.

Defer Request
A request by letter from the Bell Telephone Co. to install an antenna on the water tower on Main Street South was deferred until further information could be obtained.

The letter advised commission members that the antenna would serve as a relay for the present communication system used in the Department of Highway Vehicles.

It was also noted that possibly a representative from the company would be present at the meeting to explain the situation further. However, when the representative failed to appear, the commission withheld judgment.

Water Superintendent's Report
Water superintendent J. Lambert advised the commission that several water services had been frozen with some being thawed out for the second time.

It was agreed to check the depth of the services in the subdivisions in the spring by digging test holes.

The superintendent also reported a small leak had developed in the 12 inch main on Churchhill Road North and he was instructed to make the necessary repairs when it was convenient.

The nod of approval was given for the hydro department to assist with the installation of a 60 amp service at the town hall to service a proposed heating system at the town hall.

Hydro superintendent D. Mason informed the commission his department was proceeding with installation of hydro service to new homes under construction in Lakeview subdivision.

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Waterworks Accounts	Amount
R. Thompson Fuels	\$152.22
Acton Motors	10.80
Rockwood Motors	2.50
Thompson Lame Co.	2.50
	155.32
Sewerage Accounts	Amount
Acton Motors	33.67
Grant's Motors	38.94
Acton Welding	7.50
Acton Woodcrafts	88.15
Thompson Motors	66.80
J. B. Mackenzie and Son	6.20
	251.54
Hydro Accounts	Amount
Petty Cash	8.47
Acton Motors	10.80
Grant's Motors	40.47
Acton Motors	9.75
Acton Motors	10.57
Acton Motors	79.36
Ellis and Howard Ltd.	264.09
J. Bert Wood, Insurance	91.90
H. G. Barlow Co.	100.00
F. Terry	310.
Line A Cable Access	27.28
Acton Free Press	6.90
Northern Electric	13.18
H.E.P.C. of Ont.	9.00
Sangamo Co.	216.50
Receiver General	410.50
J. R. Kearney Corp.	1,109.36

Board Accepts \$381,368 Tender From Mackenzie for Milton High

The \$381,368 tender of J. B. Mackenzie and Son of Georgetown was accepted Monday night by the North Halton District High School Board for the construction of the new Milton high school.

The tender of the Georgetown firm was the lowest of 10 bids opened by the board ranging to \$454,365. Construction on the school is to begin in April with completion by the end of November.

The board directed architects Barnett and Redler to seek September completion of five classrooms to accommodate students for the fall term.

Other bids submitted were Duncker Construction \$529,020, Anderson Construction \$397,184, L. C. Scott Construction \$399,013, Snow Construction \$407,811, McNally Construction \$409,130, George Wimpey Construction \$414,414, Sulmac Construction \$448,644, Lostracco Construction \$454,365.

Two Storeys
The new school will be located on 10 acres recently annexed to Milton at the southern extremity of Williams Ave. The main floor will provide a gymnasium with

stage, showers and dressing rooms, a main foyer that will lead to the second floor, general offices, teachers' rooms, four classrooms and a library.

The second floor will contain a gallery overlooking the gymnasium, laboratories, classrooms and some lockers. A circular driveway approaching the front entrance will provide a covered loading area for all buses. Parking for approximately 50 cars has been indicated in the preliminary plan.

Steel Delayed
Architect Barnett, present at the board meeting, reported the delay in receiving steel had been the hold up in both Georgetown and Acton additions but contractors anticipated no delay in completion dates of the schools.

The board reviewed a report on the possible heating methods for the Georgetown school and decided on heating with number four grade oil since a storage tank had already been installed and the two present units used this type of fuel.

Harold Moir was engaged as the

Construct 10 New Homes In Lakeview Subdivision

Water construction in Acton to provide local people with employment had been curtailed due to inclement weather until last Thursday, February 5, when Cesco Perini Construction Company began construction on ten homes in the Lakeview subdivision.

Perini Construction Co. began laying foundations at the site last Thursday and by Wednesday of this week seven excavations had been completed and foundations were being poured.

Mr. Perini was the site with his workers this week as they prepared the excavations and poured foundations.

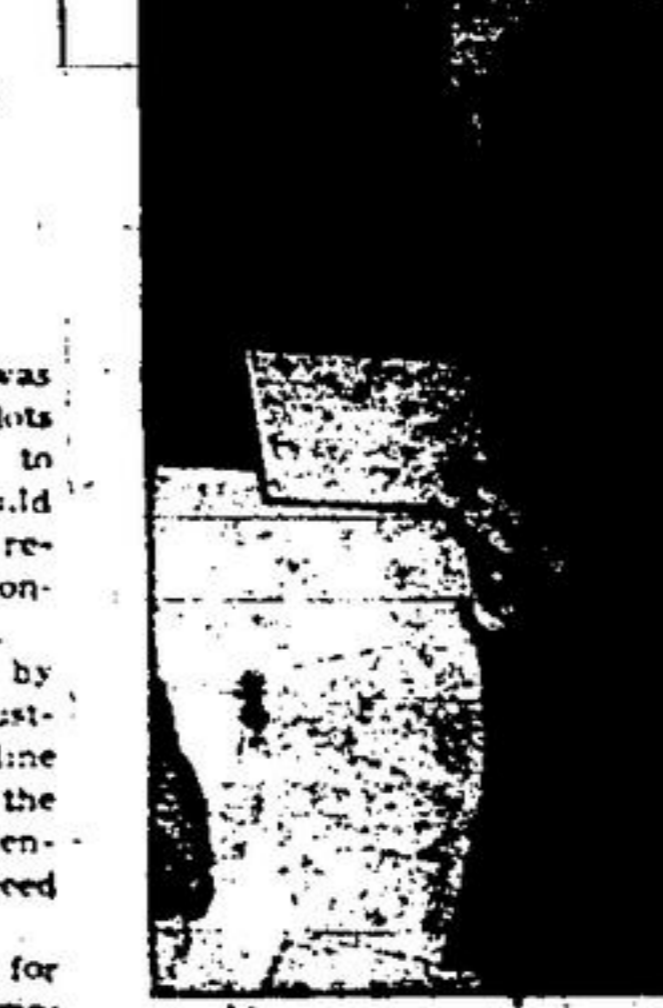
Cold, blistering weather has apparently been no handicap for the builder as he is attempting to build more homes than the present ten in the area. Mr. Perini pointed out there was plenty of land still available in the area.

Application Refused
Some months ago application was made by Mr. Perini to purchase lots in the Lakeview subdivision to build homes but his request to build a certain type home has been refused in accordance with the zoning by-law of the town of Acton.

Recently an appeal was heard by the Acton Committee of Adjustment and an allowance on a side-line setbacks was made on five of the lots being built on which enabled the contractor to proceed with construction.

Although no date has been set for completion of the homes, Mr. Perini stated that work would continue as fast as weather would permit.

Questions as to the intended to build more homes than the present ten in the area. Mr. Perini pointed out there was plenty of land still available in the area.



CERTIFICATE AWARDS were presented to four Acton Scouts on Monday night by Superintendent R. S. Hart, of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, following completion of a standard six week first aid course. Pictured above, left to right, are: T. Cairns, who received a junior certificate, Superintendent Hart, R. Hinton, junior certificate, Scouter R. Smith, and troop leader P. Newton both received senior certificates. The course was sponsored by the St. John Ambulance Brigade of Acton and was attended by many citizens as well as scouts.