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Defers Bookkeeper Applications P.U.C. Approves Salary Increases

Applications for the position of male bookkeeper for the town office were held in abeyance until later in the year when the Acton Public Utilities Commission held their regular meeting on Thursday, March 5.

This action followed the commission's agreement that in view of the recent layoffs at Malton, the applications should be discussed at a later date.

Salary Increases

J. Lambert, water superintendent, and A. Doby, sewer superintendent, each received the commission's approval for a \$100 increase in salary for 1959, retroactive to January 1st.

Salary increases retroactive to January 1, 1959, were approved, subject to ratification by council, for Mrs. A. Urquhart, \$117.64; Mrs. C. Wallis, \$117.84 and J. McGeehan, \$100.

Secretary J. McGeehan

Secretary J. McGeehan informed the commission the insurance on the hydro building and equipment on Alice Street was comparatively low and he was authorized to increase the building insurance to \$12,000 and equipment to \$3,000.

B.O.D. Count High

A report from the Ontario Water Resources Commission informed the commission the sewage waste from Beadmore and Co., which is being treated at the town disposal plant, showed an excessive B.O.D. count and an apparent deterioration in the sewage quality through the primary clarifier of the disposal plant.

The commission agreed to hold a special meeting with the officials of Beadmore and Co. and invite the sewer and water committee of council to attend.

An analysis report from the Main Street and Churchill Road water supplies was received from the O.W.R.C. and showed: Main Street well, hardness 332, alkalinity 250, chloride 24, and sodium 9; Churchill Road well, hardness 288, alkalinity 228, chloride 3, and sodium 2.

A letter from the town engineer

and O.W.R.C. outlined the equipment at the Churchill Road pumping station and the commission withdrew their recommendation to install a low voltage relay system at the site when it was pointed out the operation had been taken care of in the original installation of equipment.

The commission decided not to purchase an elapsed time indicator at a proposed cost of \$400 for the Churchill Road well when the engineer recommended a method of determining the operating time of the pump.

Superintendents' Reports

Hydro superintendent D. Mason reported that all hydro meters in Warren Grove had been changed over for government inspection. He also informed members that arrangements had been made with Beadmore and Co. to proceed with tree trimming at the bowling green. It had been reported at an earlier meeting that some of the tree branches were interfering with the hydro lines.

Water superintendent J. Lambert was given the nod of approval to supply the builder in Glenlea with a free water service. The superintendent reported another break in the Churchill Road water service. He was instructed to make the necessary repairs as soon as possible.

Sewer superintendent A. Doby was authorized to dispose of the space heater and oil tank at the disposal plant for \$50.

The superintendent reported a motor at the disposal plant had burned out but was now back in operation.

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Waterworks Accounts	
R. Thompson Fuels	\$ 3.97
E. Van Norman	81
Thompson Motors	1.90
Can. Brass Ltd.	184.92
	190.70

Sewerage Accounts	
Can. Inst. S. and Smt.	15.00
E. Van Norman	4.81

Acton Motors	8.00
Symon Hdw.	9.28
Acton Welding	4.00
Acton Woodcrafts	17.50
Can. Gen. Electric	114.75
Ont. Equip. Supply	41.15
Shurtall Sheet Metal	10.21
	227.89

Hydro Accounts	
Petty Cash	39.34
Bell Telephone	7.10
Ledger's I.G.A.	7.93
J. E. Wood, Ins. prem.	200.31
Symon Hdw.	6.30
Getstner Ltd.	14.00
Snap-on Tools	4.25
Toronto Star, adv.	54.40
Can. Gen. Electric	17.70
Acton Motors	10.83
F. G. Oakes, mileage	10.00
H. Palmer, cleaning	25.00
R. Thompson Fuels	115.60
Thompson Motors	4.50
Ellis and Howard	27.83
Phillips Ltd.	51.90
H.E.P.C., labor on payroll	101.09
J. R. Kearney Corp.	30.00
Hayes Steel Prod.	108.24
	914.62

Town Maps

Now available: maps of the town of Acton. They may be purchased at the town office or the Free Press office for 25c each.

Former Acton Man Suffers Injuries In Head-on Crash

Edward Hufnagel, 45, of Alliston, former Actonian and a foreman at Baxter Laboratories of Alliston, is in St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto, with serious injuries following a two-car head-on collision south of Tottenham Saturday.

Mr. Hufnagel was travelling alone in his car at time of the collision with a car driven by E. Baxter who was accompanied by his brother N. Baxter, owner of the car, both from Weston.

Reports from the hospital on Wednesday noted that Mr. Hufnagel's condition was improved and the other two men are in satisfactory condition.

Police reported both cars were a complete wreck.

Service Station Robbed Friday Of Cash, Goods

Tools, tobacco, a battery booster and a small amount of cash with a total value of \$500, were stolen from a service station owned by Alec Wilson of Acton, when thieves broke a rear window and gained entrance to the building sometime Friday night.

The service station, situated approximately two miles east of Acton on number 7 highway, was closed around nine o'clock Friday night and it was not until the following morning that the robbery was noticed.

North Halton O.P.P. detachment were called and investigated. The proprietor, Mr. Wilson, informed the Free Press he had left town for a visit to Mexico and his father was operating the service station for him.

Let Contract

Contract for 2.4 miles of No. 25 Highway was let this week to Peel Construction Co. of Brampton, Deputy Highways Minister Fulton announced last week.

The contract calls for grading, culverts, reinforced concrete and asphalt paving and structures at a cost of \$1,681,353.

Architects Get Board's OK; Plan April Start

Architects have been instructed to prepare final plans for a new \$150,000 school addition at the Robert Little Public School.

Cliff Bradley, public school board chairman, reported Wednesday that this action followed a Tuesday evening council meeting when approval to prepare a construction by-law for the new addition was given by council.

Mr. Bradley stated that when plans were received and accepted by the school board and school inspector, they would be submitted to the Department of Education for their final approval.

Upon receipt of approval of the plans from the department, tenders would be let. Three classrooms of children in the present condemned building would be re-allocated in the school auditorium and other classrooms under crowded

\$150,000 Addition to School Receives Approval of Council

Council approved the construction of the new 12 room, \$150,000 addition to the Robert Little Public School and instructed the clerk to draw up the necessary by-law Tuesday night following a discussion with a delegation from the school board.

Chairman E. W. Bradley and trustees J. W. Wolfe and T. Watson, representing the Public School Board, presented a resolution for

council's consideration and approval of the new addition at a revised cost of \$150,000 instead of the original estimate of \$200,000.

The previous estimate had been based on the Department of Education practice of basing costs at \$20,000 per room. The school board requested for a ten-room addition to be used as classrooms and an additional two rooms which would be used as home economics

and industrial arts classrooms. Council agreed the new addition therefore consisted of a 12 room addition and before approval was given, the resolution was changed to include 12 rooms instead of the stipulated 10.

Stresses Urgency

In addressing the mayor and council, chairman Bradley outlined the urgency of council's approval for the new addition which had first

been solicited on January 27 of this year.

Mr. Bradley informed council the school board, following approval of the school inspector, had engaged architects to supply sketch plans for the new addition.

It was pointed out to council that the estimated cost of the ten classroom addition plus the two auxiliary rooms was placed at \$150,000, which included the cost of a new

heating plant for the Stone School presently heated by the boilers in the Robert Little School.

Mr. Bradley also pointed out that a government grant of 51 per cent, or more would be available on the heating system for the Stone School. It was noted, however, that the present heating system in the Robert Little School was adequate to heat the new addition.

Old Section "Menace"

In giving his report to council Mr. Bradley explained the burnt section of the old school was considered a real menace and reminded council that high winds could easily collapse the roof structure and force out the walls.

"Should any child receive injury or worse, we shudder at the consequences. Our request for the demolition of the condemned school would absolve the board of responsibility," remarked the chairman.

He also reminded the council that immediate approval of the new addition was imperative to ensure accommodation for the children in the 1959-60 term.

Mr. Bradley also presented the school board's estimated operation budget for the year amounting to \$83,000.

Queries Reduction

Following the presentation of the budget councillor B. D. Rushton queried how the school board could reduce their estimates by 20 per cent?

The board chairman informed him that in the first place there was a surplus because there had been a supplemental grant forthcoming from the department. He also explained that the school board had intended to install a heating system in the stone school at a cost of \$53,000 but this now could be included in the new addition and be eligible for a grant.

It was also explained that last year's requisition had been high because it was necessary to bring the salary schedule up to a competitive basis with other towns.

Councillor J. T. Hurst quipped "Possibly we can look forward to another surplus this year," and was promptly answered by the chairman as he remarked, "If there is it will be by the good management of the school board."

Malton Problem

Councillor H. Lowe reminded the board members this request had been put into abeyance for two weeks and suggested that there might still be a problem with the school children affected by the situation at Malton.

Mr. Hurst enquired if the budget level was based on the fact that the required heating system for the stone school could be included in the new addition and if it was not built would be high. He was informed his supposition was correct as there would not be a grant on the installation of the heating system alone.

Reeve J. H. Goy enquired if it was necessary to have a 12-room addition by September and was informed it was only a 10 classroom addition with the other two rooms used as auxiliary rooms.

Mr. Bradley explained the use the rooms would be put to and pointed out the necessity for the addition.



AN OLD LANDMARK on the school grounds may soon be replaced by a modern twelve room addition to the Robert Little Public School. On Tuesday evening of this week, Acton council gave their approval for the preparation of a construction by-law amounting to \$150,000. School Board officials designate the

new addition as ten rooms with the additional two rooms being utilized for Home Economics and Industrial Arts. The section pictured above has been condemned since it was partially destroyed by fire in 1956, although three rooms in this section have been utilized since.

Board Requests \$150,000 School Addition To Present 1959 Requisition for Approval

Acton school trustees re-emphasized the need for a 10-room addition to the Robert Little public school at their regular meeting Thursday of last week and appointed the chairman, C. W. Bradley, and the finance committee, W. Wolfe and T. Watson, to acquaint council with new developments on the proposal.

Earlier the board, in a resolution to council requesting approval for the addition, recommended that council defer their decision for two weeks in view of the unemployment situation at Malton.

Anticipating council would deal with the matter on March 10, the chairman outlined some additional facts they would present to make their case "all the stronger".

Require \$150,000

The chairman emphasized that the request they will require from council this year will be \$20,000 less than last year and that a further grant is anticipated on the new addition. Fifty-one per cent of the construction costs will be financed by grant, he explained.

Although estimates placed the cost of the addition at \$200,000, the board felt that \$150,000 would be all that was required for the project.

Trustees were unanimous in endorsing the view that to proceed with plans would tend to reaffirm confidence in the town. Trustee

Murray Smith pointed out that local building was not being affected by conditions at Malton and that a contractor at Lakeview subdivision was going ahead with construction of new homes.

"The new budget should make council happy," commented T. Watson, as the board reviewed earlier discussions with council on the necessity of the school addition.

School "Safe Enough"

The old school, which will be demolished, if plans for an addition are approved, was the object of an inspection by Fire Chief J. Newton, the chairman and E. Marks of the property committee following the disaster at Listowel arena. The chairman felt there was cause for concern at the weight of snow on the burned timbers but that the old section was "safe enough now" in a letter to the fire chief at a

previous meeting, the board requested a visit from the fire chief to appraise the old school.

A letter from the Public School Trustees' Association rebuffed the library book controversy the Acton board precipitated by asking for grants on books. Acton's population, exceeding 2,500, is not eligible for grants on class library books but the Trustees' Association suggested that "if your board feels strongly enough about this matter, we would appreciate a resolution to this effect in time for our convention at Port Albion."

A letter from Acton Ministerial Association requesting attendance by the board as a body at Holy Week services was acknowledged and several trustees will attend one of the services.

Seek Teachers

Committees will go to Toronto and Stratford teachers' colleges

this month in an effort to secure teachers for vacant positions on the staff.

Principal G. McKenzie of the Robert Little school reported that, subject to board approval, grade eight students will go to the parliament buildings and the Ontario Museum, in Toronto, and grade seven to the O.A.C. for educational visits. He also reported that pupils of the school have raised \$119.50 for the Junior Red Cross.

In his report to the board, E. Smith, principal of the M. Z. Bennett school, advised that the bulk of the \$399.15 order for school library books had been received by the board as a body at Holy Week services was acknowledged and several trustees will attend one of the services.

The board accepted with regret the resignation of Miss Isabel Anderson, who has served over 40

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Daughter Telephones

Mr., Mrs. Alex McGregor Celebrate 60th Anniversary

On Saturday, March 7, Mr. and Mrs. Alex McGregor of John Street, Acton, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. The couple were married in Guelph and with the exception of a few years spent in Western Canada, have spent most of their life in Acton and vicinity.

They have two daughters, Mrs. W. D. Talbot, Acton, and Mrs. Mervin H. Soyester of Oklahoma City; one

granddaughter, Mrs. John McHugh, two great grandchildren, Gail and John McHugh Jr., and one sister, Mrs. Jessie McGregor, of Acton.

Mr. and Mrs. Soyester, who were unable to attend phoned their congratulations to her parents. Many gifts and congratulations were received from relatives and friends and a family dinner was held on Sunday.

C. of C. Meet

Automobile Claims Highest Guest Informs Chamber

The Acton Chamber of Commerce held their second general meeting of the year in Knox Presbyterian church basement last evening (Wednesday) with 23 members present. A very enjoyable supper was served by the Knox Ladies' Aid.

Secretary J. Bert Wood introduced the guest speaker of the evening, R. W. Harris of the All Canada Insurance Federation.

Last year, fire, automobile and casualty insurance companies paid out more than \$425 million to reimburse Canadians involved in accidents and misfortunes. Mr. Harris informed members.

Speaking on behalf of the Federation, which represents more than 250 fire, automobile and casualty insurance companies, Mr. Harris said that while fire losses

still claimed a large proportion of the total insurance bill, automobile claims now hold first place.

Accidents Doubled

Pointing to public apathy regarding the danger of increasing automobile accidents, he said that accidents per 1,000 vehicles had doubled since 1959 and had reached a peak of 107 accidents per thousand vehicles per year.

Every year more than 3,500 people—the equivalent of three army battalions—are killed on Canadian highways. Mr. Harris said that 90 per cent of most accidents and mishaps are caused by "human follies", not mechanical failure or other similar factors.

"For example," he said, "investigation shows that one-third of the fire loss in Canada is caused

ed conditions until the new addition is completed.

Mr. Bradley stated, however, that the grades 6, 7 and 8 children to be re-allocated would remain in their respective grades. Discontinuation of the home economics and industrial arts classes would be necessary until the new addition was ready for use.

The board chairman noted that final approval for the new addition was expected by the end of March and demolition of the old school building would get under way early in April.

The school board expects portions of the new addition will be completed for occupancy by September.

Mr. Bradley pointed out that the \$150,000 proposed cost of the new addition included the demolition of the old building as well.

with side bleachers, three classrooms and one laboratory and Acton as workmen are busy erecting cement blocks and boys' and girls' dressing rooms. Work was curtailed for a few weeks due to the inclement weather.

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PROGRESS IS BEING MADE on the new High School addition in Acton as workmen are busy erecting cement blocks and boys' and girls' dressing rooms. Work was curtailed for a few weeks due to the inclement weather.