

The Acton Free Press.

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Twelve Pages—Seven Cents.

Council Gives First Two Readings To School Construction By-Law

W. McEachern New Part Time Meter Reader

Wilfred McEachern was hired from a list of ten applicants for the position of part time meter reader following a joint meeting of the Public Utilities Commission and administrative committee of council Monday night.

It was decided to interview two of the ten on Tuesday morning. At this interview, it was decided to engage Mr. McEachern, who commenced his duties at noon the same day.

Applications for the position of part time meter reader were requested following the illness of the regular meter reader, N. Hurst.

At the special meeting Monday night, an employees' holiday plan was discussed.

Workmen Busy As Local YMCA Gets Facelift

Acton Y.M.C.A. is receiving a face lift this week as workmen are busy painting the gymnasium and ceiling of the banquet room as well as altering cupboards in the kitchen.

Jack Carpenter and Tom Davidson, local Y's Men's Club members are heading the painting department and expect to complete their chore assisted by other club members this week.

Ray Hopper and Jack Blundell, working through the self-help employment bureau, are making the renovations in the Y kitchen with the addition of new cupboards.

Bruce Andrews Places Second In 38 Runners

Bruce Andrews, 17-year-old Acton high school student and member of the Guelph Legion Track Club, placed second last Saturday in the Canadian Championship half mile track event at Hamilton, when he closely followed Jesse Petch from the Michigan State University.

Owing to the large entry in the event, two heats were run off in the afternoon with the first and second place winners each winning their respective heats.

In the evening the finals took place with the first four runners in each heat competing. Bruce completed the 880 yard track event in two minutes and 6/10 seconds.

Officials from the United States universities praised the efforts of the young Acton athlete in both his style and manner.

To Seek Council Consent On Artificial Ice Plans

A steering committee formed to investigate the possibilities of installing artificial ice in Acton arena discussed methods of financing the project during a meeting in the Y.M.C.A. on Monday evening.

It was agreed that council consent would have to be given before the committee proceeded with engineering an engineer. An engineer would be required to review the present arena and submit a report

Board, Inspector Okay Architects' Plans For New Robert Little School Addition

The myriad problems facing a board when construction of a new school is in the formative stages were met by trustees of Acton public school board Monday. Meeting with the architect, A. Barnes and Inspector R. Barnard to pore over plans and sketches of the new wing on the Robert Little school, the board went over drawings in detail before giving final approval to go ahead on the project.

Some changes were made in plans submitted by the architect to conform with new regulations by the Department of Education and minor changes were suggested that would increase the efficiency of the building.

Final Plans

The architect promised to have final plans in the hands of Inspector Barnard on April 12th for tentative final approval by the Department of Education. Tenders will be called on April 16th and will be advertised. Anticipated demand is for six classrooms ready in the new addition by September 1, 1959.

"You have gone through plans more thoroughly than many of our boards do," Inspector Barnard said.

The board spent well over two hours delving into various aspects of the proposed new building. They discussed:

- The value of state blackboards in comparison with composition board. Heard from the Inspector that in his estimation they were not in the same league, state being the better board.
- The difficulties of finding suitable doors for exterior use. Decided to order four sets of aluminum doors on the recommendation of the architect.
- The inspection of a new type of washable acoustic ceiling tile that is fireproof as well as being attractive. Recommended its use in the new wing.
- The adequacy of present track board space for teachers' use.
- The Fire Marshall's regulations concerning noise instead of extinguishers.
- The layout and various technical problems in the proposed new Industrial Arts and Household Economics rooms.
- The installation of a new heating system in the old side school. Decided on the recommendation of the architect to use gas heating.
- The board also heard from the architect that the new addition would be heated with hot water by installing a heat exchanger in the present heating system. This method would be more economical.
- Chairman C. Bradley presided at the meeting with trustees Wolfe, Watson, Smith, Marks and Root also present.
- Principal G. MacKenzie also attended to assist the board with their expansion plans.

Acton Council Tuesday night indicated its approval for the demolition of the section of the Robert Little public school damaged by fire in 1955 and for the construction of a new 12 room addition, at an estimated cost of \$150,000.

This action was taken when a construction by-law was given two readings.

Also approved was a by-law applying to the Ontario Municipal Improvement Corporation for their purchase of the debentures for the new school addition amounting to \$150,000.

Reviews Meeting

During the committee chairman's reports, Reeve J. H. Goy, chairman of the sewer and water committee, reviewed a recent meeting with his committee at which time the Public Utilities and R. R. Parker of Beardmore and Company were present.

Mr. Goy explained the purpose of the meeting was to discuss a recent Ontario Water Resources Commission report regarding the condition of the town disposal plant.

The revee outlined discussions which took place at the meeting and emphasized the alarm expressed regarding the loss of the south Main Street spring water supply due to contamination.

Mr. Goy informed members because of the loss of this water supply, it might be wise to search for additional water sources.

One Doubtful

Councillor H. Lowe informed the revee there appeared to be doubt in the minds of Beardmore officials only as to who is causing the contamination of the water at the spring.

Mr. Goy suggested that it was possible the situation could reach the point where court action might be necessary but assured council this would not be necessary if Beardmore showed definite action in trying to overcome the situation.

The water and sewer chairman also mentioned that he agreed wholeheartedly with Mr. Parker when he had stated there was no point in building a disposal plant if it was not going to be suitable.



ICE REMOVAL was part of the program for the town workers this week as they disposed of the thick ice at the side of the road on Mill Street in the business section. Using picks, shovels and a front-end loader the workers carried away chunks of ice which in some sections measured 15 inches thick. Road conditions in town as everywhere else have been the worst this year that they have been for a number of years. Shown above, workers are busy on the section in front of Baxter's Drug store.

District High Schools

59 Rate Set 8.7 Mills

Members of the North Halton High School District Board Monday night in Acton approved a 1959 budget of 2.1 mills and finalized a much-discussed four classification salary schedule for teachers with a minimum of \$4,500.

Reviewing the proposed budget, secretary G. O. Brown noted teachers' salaries showed an increase of \$60,000 with debenture payments up \$61,000 from the 1958 figure of \$52,000.

\$498,452 Budget

The \$498,452.97 budget will be met with \$39,468 from Acton, \$84,981 from Georgetown, \$53,347 from Milton, \$48,581 from Esquesing and \$16,777 from Nassagaweya plus governmental grants of \$225,000 and a surplus of \$20,000 as well as other revenue.

Following a letter from the Teachers' Federation that the salary schedule adopted by the board earlier was not satisfactory, members reviewed, debated and discussed for two hours the classifications proposed by the Teachers' Federation, and the recommendations on salary schedule.

Classification Confusion

There was considerable difference of opinion on what the classification covered as members noted the class one teacher was a university graduate with O.C.E. training and also a grade 13 graduate with a summer course. While the minimum for the class one teacher was raised to \$4,500 from \$4,300 members agreed that the summer student teacher would be paid at the \$4,300 level.

Trustee R. Berry, Milton, submitted a list of 52 area boards with two offering a \$4,300 minimum and one balance a \$4,500 minimum.

"I think we're unduly afraid of future pressure," Trustee E. S. Force, Acton, commented to the suggested increase in the minimum.

The members agreed to approach council at an early date to discuss the project before making any further progress.

Delay Action

With Col. Brown's approval action on the resignation was delayed two months to find out if Georgetown would definitely be withdrawing from the district as urged by the Georgetown council.

Members learned the recent extended provincial grants would not assist the district in its current building program despite earlier verbal assurance from Department representatives. Col. Brown pointed out the new grants based on \$25,000 for a gymnasium would not apply to the three gyms approved prior to January of this year.

Review Salaries

A committee meeting was to be arranged to review salaries of the architects at the three schools bearing in mind the increase in accommodation planned for September.

A commission distribution on Board insurance was set at 12 1/2 per cent among eight agents in the district.

The resignation of Mr. Evans from the staff of the Acton High School was accepted with regret. Letters from three night school committees were also received thanking the board for its assistance in the past season.

Many took advantage of Sunday's fine weather for a Sunday afternoon drive through the country, perhaps for a last glimpse at the snow.

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Not Included

Councillor B. D. Rachlin, also a member of the sewer and water committee, reminded Mr. Goy that when he suggested the town explore for more water he was not speaking for Councillor Rachlin.

"I feel Beardmore are responsible for the pollution and don't think the people of Acton should lose a water source if someone else is responsible," Mr. Rachlin said.

Reeve Goy agreed Mr. Rachlin was right, but asked the councillor, "Where would you have been today if it had not been for the 1955 council exploring and funding water?" It has been a God-send.

Mayor W. H. Cook informed council that the O.W.R.C. chairman had cautioned Acton council regarding litigation and advised council it should be a last resort.

The mayor also reminded members that it was the duty of the sewer and water committee to be fully aware of the town's water supply and, if they found it necessary, to explore for a future water supply.

Councillor Lowe reminded the revee that the people had spent \$30,000 looking for water before and suggested the problem should be taken to court rather than have the people pay that much to again explore for water.

Complete In June

Deputy Reeve J. M. Greer, chairman of the roads committee, informed council his committee had received a letter from R. V. Anderson and Associates regarding the paving in Clinton and reported that completion day for the work had been set for June 30.

The chairman also reported his committee had given consideration to the possibility of the roads in Acton being swept manually but said the suggestion would be given further consideration later on.

Councillor J. T. Hurst, chairman of the finance committee, informed council his committee would be in a position following a final meeting Wednesday evening to present estimates of budget figures.

Speed Signs

A letter from the Department of Highways informed council of speed limit signs on No. 25 highway south of town had been moved closer to Acton to conform with the town limits.

Clerk J. McEachern told the council that after checking the situation, he had found the department was correct in their location of the town limits.

Reeve J. Goy reminded council

Continued on Page Four

Construction Figures Show Drop in 1959

Construction figures for the first three months of 1959 showed a decided decrease over the same period last year, according to figures released by town clerk J. McEachern.

In January of this year permits issued were nil but in February permits were issued to the value of \$192,320 and to date this month amount to \$221,451.

Total value of permits issued this year is \$413,771.00 as against \$487,900 issued for the same period last year.

Permits issued this year consisted of new homes in both the Lakeview and Clinton Subdivisions, a new High School addition, erection of a private garage and alterations to two buildings.

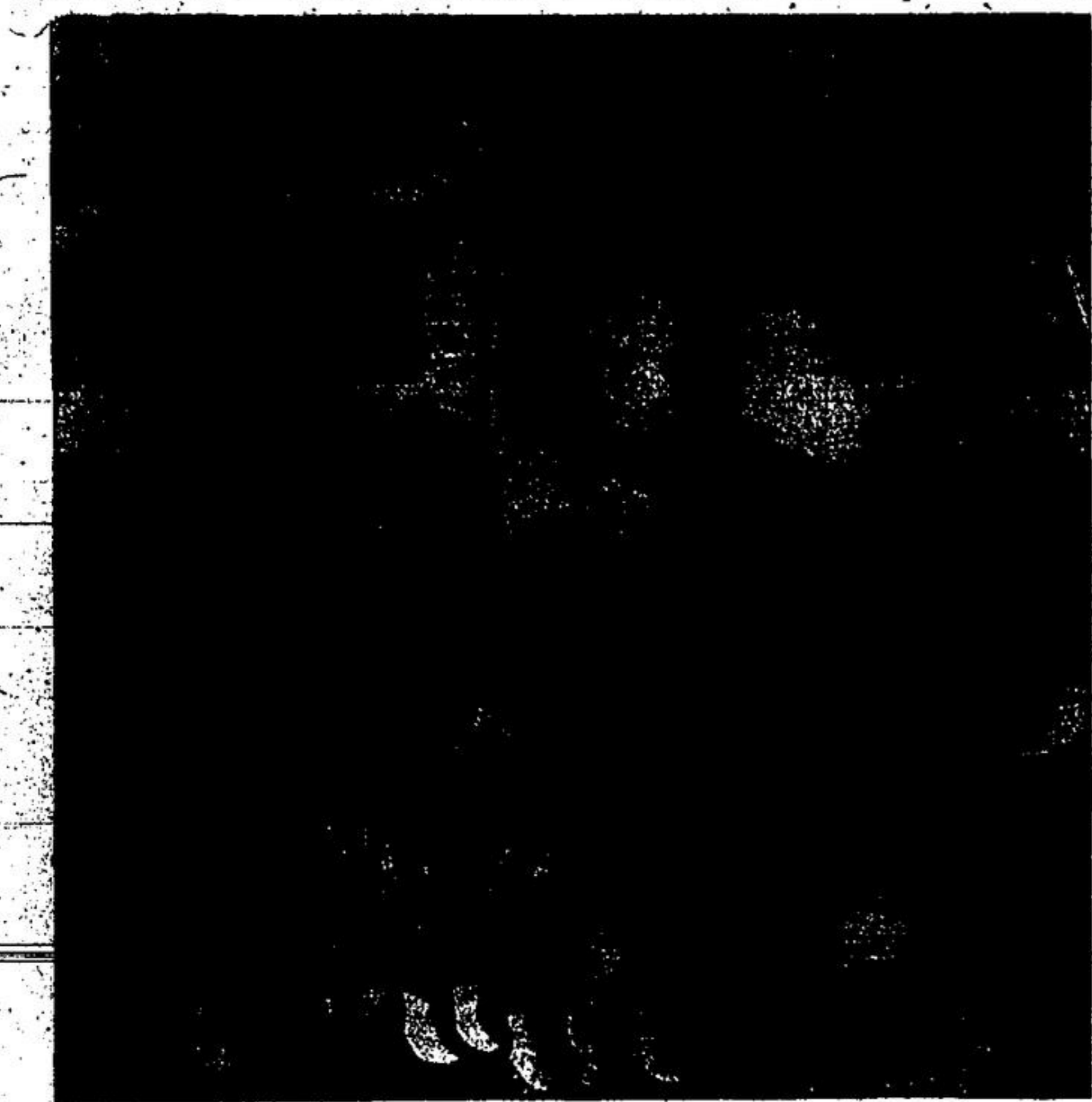
Easter Egg Hunt Scheduled for Park

Many children are expected to participate in the annual Easter Egg hunt sponsored by the Acton Y.M.C.A. as they search for colored slips of paper in Acton park on Monday, March 30.

Prizes for the annual event will be Easter eggs which will be distributed following the program at the park.

Y.M.C.A. officials will hide colored slips of paper in various sections of the park and the children procuring the largest amount of the papers will be awarded their prizes later in the Y.M.C.A.

Starting time for the big event is scheduled for 10 a.m. in the morning and it is expected to continue for most of the morning.



LEAVING FOR TORONTO grade eight students from the Robert Little School are seen receiving last minute instructions from teachers, Mrs. Marie Andrews and Doug Copeland. Leading the procession to the bus door is Pat Quennell, followed by Gloria Romanik, Carol Evans, Linda Cox and Helen Benton. Driver of the bus, W. Strub, stands in the background. The pupils toured the museum, Parliament Buildings and Casa Loma, during their day-long stay in the city.

Engineer Advises Utilities Regarding Sewage Plant

Allan R. Townsend, assistant district engineer, from the Ontario Water Resources Commission, advised the Public Utilities Commission, at a meeting on Thursday, March 19, that Beardmore sewage being treated at the town disposal plant should be limited to 3,600 gallons per day and also warned that if present operating difficulties continued it might prove costly to both the town and the P.U.C.

Mr. Townsend reviewed analysis reports from the effluent being treated from the tannery and reported that the samples ranged from 15 B.O.D. to 340 B.O.D. between the dates of December 15 to January 26.

The engineer also pointed out that he found the flow had increased from the tannery and also the strength of the effluent to the town plant.

Outlines Inspection

Mr. Townsend outlined an inspection with Alf Duby, sewer superintendent, taken that afternoon (Thursday) of the process

used by Beardmore before discharging effluent into the town disposal plant. He told the P.U.C. they had found two piles of hair and fleshings near the screening process used by Beardmore and the same material appeared at the town disposal plant.

The engineer also pointed out that of the series of eight filtering screens, installed by Beardmore, two of them were lying on the ground. He also noted that because of this matry material which he feared at the disposal plant the sewer superintendent had to pump an extra volume of water into the plant but the material had settled in the digester and couldn't be carried away with the four inch pipe.

The Commissioners learned from the engineer that if the oxygen at the disposal plant became too low the plant would go septic. It was also pointed out by Mr. Townsend on the tour of the Beardmore equipment Mr. Duby and himself found hairs on the outside of the last of the eight screens and also in the stream flowing from the screening process to the disposal plant.

Grease Found

He also noted a strange accumulation of grease which had appeared at disposal plant and it led him to suspect the tannery. He also told the commission that Mr. Duby had drawn off a five gallon drum of this grease at the disposal plant.

J. J. Stewart, commission chairman, enquired if it would help the situation if the volume of Beardmore effluent processed was reduced.

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Closed Friday

Tomorrow is Good Friday and this office will remain closed all day. The office will be open until noon on Saturday.

Have a Joyous Easter!

Minister Okays Manor Addition

Hallon Manor Board officials obtained permission Friday from Hon. Louis P. Ceille, Minister of Welfare for Ontario, to proceed with the construction of a 130-bed addition to the county home for aged residents. Today, county officials are in Toronto signing the construction contract with Dell Construction and work should begin within two weeks.

Total price of the contract is \$202,467.

The Municipal Board approval for the financing has not been obtained to date, but approval is expected shortly.

Cost per bed was lowered to \$5,233 and a 50 per cent grant is given by the Department. The increased facilities, including a circular chapel and auditorium, are expected to be ready early in 1960.

Meet M.P.P.

On arrival at the Parliament Buildings, the group was met by Stan Hall, M.P.P. for Halton, who spoke to the children briefly before they explored sections of the building.

A guide explained the Assembly section to the boys and girls and allowed them to remain in the gallery and hear a few of the speeches being made in parliament.

One of the highlights of the Toronto trip was a guided tour of Casa Loma, where they tramped nearly two miles through hallways and rooms climbing hundreds of stairs.

Tired but satisfied the trip was worthwhile, the youngsters once again boarded the bus and made the journey home to Acton. Some were doing while others reminisced over the sights they had seen in the city.

Students taking part in the tour will write an essay on their trip. These will be judged by the teachers. The winner will have his or her photo published in the Free Press as well as the essay.

This morning, grade eight students from the M. Z. Bennett public school took the same tour and a similar contest has been arranged.

Toronto Trip

Meet M.P.P., Hear Speeches See Museum, Castle Tuesday

Approximately 35 excited grade eight pupils from the Robert Little public school boarded a chartered bus at 7:45 Tuesday morning and journeyed to Toronto, where they toured the museum, Parliament Buildings and Casa Loma.

On arrival at the museum, the youngsters were taken on a guided tour of the building spending considerable time in the section devoted to the Elizabethan era.

After traversing the distance of the entire building ascending and descending countless stairs, the pupils, accompanied by their teachers, Mrs. Marie Andrews and Doug Copeland, ate their lunch in the museum before continuing their journey to the Parliament Buildings.

Acton Juveniles To Compete in Ten Team Play

The Acton Juvenile team has been entered in the giant 20 town Juvenile Hockey Tournament slated for Milton Arena on Friday and Saturday, March 27 and 28, in aid of the Latsow Fund.

Entrants in the tournament were drawn from 30 entries in two divisions. When play ends Friday night, only four teams will be left in each of the two divisions. The division finals will be played Saturday afternoon, and Saturday evening the two division champs will meet for a tournament championship.

Alex Johnson, president of Acton Legion Minor Sports, today reported the Acton entry would compete against Fergus in the semi-finals on Friday afternoon at 3 p.m.

In the event Acton should win this game they will enter the finals scheduled for Saturday afternoon.

Arrangements are being made in Milton to billet players travelling from a distance and a committee set up less than two weeks ago has the event completely organized with the sanction of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association.