

The Acton Free Press.

Eighty-Fifth Year.—No. 25.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17th, 1959

Twelve Pages—Seven Cents.

Name John D. Ladouceur As Acton's New Assessor

John D. Ladouceur of Niagara Falls was selected from a list of 15 applicants for the position of assessor for Acton, during a special council meeting on Monday evening.

Mr. Ladouceur, who is presently employed as a senior assessor in Stamford township, will commence his duties here on January 1, 1960. He brings with him 12 years of experience in the assessing field. He received his diploma from the Institute of Municipal Assessors following a three year extension course at Queen's University in Kingston.

During the special meeting Mayor W. H. Cook informed council that 15 applicants had applied for the position and from them six had been chosen for personal interviews.

Four Interviewed

He noted that of the six only four had been present for the interview and the list had been further cut to two applicants by the committee.

In making a recommendation to council on behalf of the administration committee the mayor stressed the qualifications of Mr. Ladouceur as he pointed out the man's experience.

The new assessor will be engaged at an annual salary of \$4,500, plus all fringe benefits presently enjoyed by the town working force. Mr. Ladouceur is 41 years of age, married, with three boys whose ages are six, 14 and 16.

Reeve J. H. Goy told council that the new assessor was present-

ly assisting in looking after an assessment of \$52,000,000. in Stamford township.

First Qualified

Councillor S. D. Rachlin informed his colleagues it was the first time in Acton's history that a qualified assessor had been hired. Council also approved payment of \$17.25 to Mr. Ladouceur for travelling expenses to Acton for the second interview.

Warning

With Christmas drawing near Corporal Ray Mason of the local O.P.P. Detachment issues a warning to all drivers to be on the alert when driving as the police will be out in full force cracking down on drinking drivers over the Yuletide season.

He noted that in view of the expected increase in traffic everyone should be extra careful with children on their school holidays.

In conclusion he pointed out that no leniency would be meted out to anyone caught while under the influence of liquor.

Slippery Pavement Causes Two Accidents

Constable B. Moreau of the local O.P.P. Detachment was kept busy on Saturday, December 12 as he investigated two accidents at the same corner within half an hour of each other, following the ice storm.

The first accident which happened about 3 p.m. at the corner of Young and Queen Streets resulted in slight damage to the two cars when one driven by Peter Kroese, R.R. No. 2 Acton proceeding east was in collision with another vehicle driven by Charles Griese, R.R. No. 2 Acton when the Griese car slid on the slippery pavement and failed to make the turn.

One half hour later the constable was called back to the same location to investigate a minor accident when an eastbound car driven by George Koutoullis of Toronto, braked prior to making the turn onto Young St. and was struck in the rear by another vehicle following driven by Robert Donald of Newmarket.

Damage to all cars involved was slight and no charges were laid.

Six Days Left Stores Now Open Until Nine P.M.

Shoppers in Acton have only six more shopping days to choose their Christmas gifts. This week stores in Acton remain open until nine p.m. to accommodate the shoppers. They will also be open next Monday.

On December 24 the stores in Acton close at six o'clock in the evening and will remain closed Boxing Day.

The day after New Year's will be a store holiday as well. However, the local stores will be open on the Mondays following Christmas and New Year's Day.

Wednesday Next Week

To ensure delivery to all subscribers by Christmas eve, next week's paper will be issued on Wednesday afternoon, a day earlier than usual. Our annual greeting issue, it will be in tabloid size and contain messages of Christmas wishes from many.

In order to get the paper out on Wednesday it will be necessary to push all deadlines ahead one day—display advertising Monday noon, news and classifieds Tuesday noon. The assistance of all advertisers and correspondents would be sincerely appreciated by the staff.

Merchants, organizations or individuals wishing to place Christmas greeting messages in the special Christmas issue should contact the office Friday.

The following week's paper will be issued on Thursday, the usual publication day.

Eight Ratepayers, Parks Board Discuss Line Fence at Acton Park

A delegation of eight ratepayers, whose property borders on the park land, met with the Acton parks board Tuesday evening to discuss the fate of a proposed new line fence at Prospect Park and the type of fence that might be erected.

Representing the homeowners in the area were Mrs. F. Heller, Mrs. M. Bennett, Mrs. K. Mackenzie, B. Hinton, G. Allan, C. Landsborough, C. Armstrong and J. Preston.

Following a review of the condition of the present wooden fence the delegation was asked its view on the erection of either a steel fence or another wooden fence. Seven of the eight agreed another wooden fence would be acceptable and one resident desired a steel fence.

Mr. Hinton enquired who would erect the new fence and if the Parks Board would bear the cost if ratepayers affected would also share in the cost.

After explaining the approximate cost of a new fence, the chairman, R.R. Parker, said it could be a combined effort or alternately the entire cost would be paid by the Board.

Mr. Hinton told the board he erected bordering his property to conform with the present fence erected in the front of the park. He also suggested that a gate be installed behind his property and stated he was willing to share the cost of the gate.

Other ratepayers expressed a desire for a wooden fence which would offer them more privacy in their backyards.

Mayor W. H. Cook asked Mr. Hinton why he felt he should have a gate when others do not. The mayor was told there had always

Continued on Page Five

November Nil

Clerk - Administrator J. McGeehan this week pointed out that from July until now building permits have been issued to the amount of \$200,000.

It was also noted that no permits had been issued during the month of November for renovations or any new building.

150 Officials Honor John A. Milne During Warden's Banquet Wednesday

The Nassagaweya township Reeve who has guided Halton County Council through its current year of business was honored last night (Wednesday) when friends, fellow councillors, officials, employees and relatives gathered at the annual Warden's Banquet in the Legion Hall, Milton.

John A. Milne and his wife were guests of honor as 150 gathered to fetter the retiring county warden.

and many words of praise were heaped on his shoulders by friends and associates. A program followed the delicious turkey supper served by the ladies of the Legion Auxiliary.

Head Table Guests

Chairman was Reeve-elect Herbert Merry of Oakville, who introduced the head table guests including county solicitor K. Y. Dick, Burlington Reeve William C. Tyr-

rell, Acton Reeve John Goy, M.P. Sandy and Mrs. Best, M.L.A., Stanley and Mrs. Hall, guest speaker Rev. Lockhart Royal of Norval and Union Presbyterian Churches, County treasurer Miss Margaret Maxted, Oakville Reeve William Card, Milton Deputy Reeve Mrs. Mary S. Pettit, Nassagaweya Deputy Reeve Archie R. Service, Esq., Esqueping Reeve George Currie, Halton Manor superintendent Stanley Allen, Milton Reeve R. C. Cunningham, former Nelson township Reeve Harold Adkins, county engineer Roy Smith and county crown attorney Peter K. McWilliams. They were piped into the hall by Bruce Kitchen of the Lorne Scots.

"Christmas Story"

Guest speaker Rev. Royal dwelt

upon what he called "an up-to-date Christmas story," in which he explained the importance of the basic things upon which Christmas is built—goodwill, hope and fulfillment. He was introduced by Mr. Tyrrell.

Mr. Currie proposed the toast to the Warden, terming Mr. Milne "a number one Warden" and stating "it has been a pleasure for all of us to work with him as he had the interest of all the municipalities at heart."

Many Presents

Replying to the toast, Mr. Milne introduced members of county council, county officials, fellow Nassagaweya councillors, his family and township officials. "This past year has been very busy and we have been faced with many problems," he noted, but expressed his appreciation to fellow councillors and the staff for their very capable assistance. "It has been a great privilege to serve as your Warden," he concluded.

Mr. Adkins proposed the toast to county council, explaining "these men and women who volunteer for public service must be possessed with a keen, sincere sense of pride in their community, must have a deep sense of responsibility, and must have a sustained desire to do something useful for their fellow men and women. Mr. Card replied for the councillors.

The toast to the past Wardens was proposed by Mr. Goy, who said "their job had been well done." In his reply, Mr. Dick introduced 12 other past Wardens including Charles Readhead, who was the 1917 Warden and the oldest still living.

Mrs. Donna Manes favored with two vocal solos.

To conclude the evening, Mr. Service, assisted by Mr. Currie, presented flowers to Mrs. Milne for her understanding and co-operation throughout the Warden's busy year, and a Bulova watch to the retiring Warden. Mr. Card, who is past Warden, presented the gavel to Mr. Milne.

—There are many Christmas parties in town and district this week and next.

Power Failure Causes Alarm

A broken hydro pole at Rockwood caused a power failure in Acton Saturday evening for about 50 minutes, during a heavy snow and ice storm.

Portable lights, gas lanterns and candles were pressed into service in many homes and car lights were the only illumination on the streets as trees bending under the weight of thick gleaming ice drooped over the roadway and streets.

The sudden failure of power caught many residents short-handed. After cautious scavenging residents found candles, lamps, or even flashlights to illuminate the house.

Cowboys Fade

Disappointment was expressed by many children who had their eyes glued to the TV set when the last glimmer of light faded and their favorite cowboy rode off into darkness.

The hydro crew in town immediately drove to the power station and when no local trouble could be found, hydro superintendent Doug Mason called the Guelph office where he was notified of the trouble.

With nothing to do but wait the workers sat in the darkness of the shop on Alice Street until the return of the power.

Two Little Girls Gaze Admiringly Into Santa's Eyes During Christmas Party on Saturday Evening

Two little girls gaze admiringly into Santa's eyes during his visit to the Knox Presbyterian church Sunday School Christmas party on Saturday evening. Pictured, left to right, are Bonnie McDowell, Santa and Judy Bearman. During the evening each individual class participated in the program. Prior to the lights off over town and the church was lighted by gas lamps for the first part of the evening.

Hits Police Cruiser Causes \$525 Damage

As a rule Acton police have to travel a distance to investigate an accident but on Tuesday evening at 6:05 p.m. an accident occurred on the doorstep of constable M. Harness, when a car struck the police cruiser.

A late model car driven by Frank Marisak, 18, of 219 Peel Street, travelling west on Bower, is assumed to have gone out of control and crashed into the parked police cruiser at the home of constable Harness, striking the right front of the cruiser and proceeding across the lawn of the home owner where it came to a halt.

Damage to the police cruiser amounted to approximately \$175 and to the Marisak vehicle approximately \$350.

Clutching frantically to the side of an abandoned well on the Knox Church property until help arrived from the town workmen, Joey Cyganek, age 9, narrowly missed death by drowning on Tuesday afternoon when the ground under his feet gave way and he crashed down a 15 foot hole.

Returning home from school with some of his chums the youngster was proceeding down Knox Avenue and had apparently crossed the church property to view a portion of the covered in well when the ground under his feet gave way and he hurtled down the old shaft.

His friends ran quickly to a nearby house and summoned D. A. Schuets and John Toebes who saw the child's plight and ran frantically in search of a ladder.

In their attempt to secure a long ladder they raced down the stairs to the basement of the church where a group of ladies were packing Christmas gifts but the only ladder they could locate was a step ladder.

In the meantime, town workmen were summoned to the scene and equipped with a long extension ladder, they soon had the wet, shivering youngster safely on solid ground.

The youngster was soon packed in a car and trundled home to his parents, who were unaware of the accident.

Had it not been for the prompt action of Joey's chums and the quick response of Mr. Schuets and Mr. Toebes in summoning the town workmen the child might have lost his grip and fallen several feet below into murky water and slime and drowned.

The board of managers of the church lost no time following the incident in having the old well filled in.

No sign of a well was apparent and some believe since it was covered over with grass for many years that it had been there for quite some time.

Save Child's Life at Cave-In

Clutching frantically to the side of an abandoned well on the Knox Church property until help arrived from the town workmen, Joey Cyganek, age 9, narrowly missed death by drowning on Tuesday afternoon when the ground under his feet gave way and he crashed down a 15 foot hole.

Returning home from school with some of his chums the youngster was proceeding down Knox Avenue and had apparently crossed the church property to view a portion of the covered in well when the ground under his feet gave way and he hurtled down the old shaft.

His friends ran quickly to a nearby house and summoned D. A. Schuets and John Toebes who saw the child's plight and ran frantically in search of a ladder.

In their attempt to secure a long ladder they raced down the stairs to the basement of the church where a group of ladies were packing Christmas gifts but the only ladder they could locate was a step ladder.

In the meantime, town workmen were summoned to the scene and equipped with a long extension ladder, they soon had the wet, shivering youngster safely on solid ground.

The youngster was soon packed in a car and trundled home to his parents, who were unaware of the accident.

Had it not been for the prompt action of Joey's chums and the quick response of Mr. Schuets and Mr. Toebes in summoning the town workmen the child might have lost his grip and fallen several feet below into murky water and slime and drowned.

The board of managers of the church lost no time following the incident in having the old well filled in.

No sign of a well was apparent and some believe since it was covered over with grass for many years that it had been there for quite some time.

Malton Warden John A. Milne, Right, Was Honored Last Night (Wednesday) by County Officials at the Annual Warden's Banquet in Milton with Gifts of a Gavel and Wristwatch. His Wife Also Received a Bouquet of Flowers. Oakville Reeve William Card, Left, Made the Presentations.

Malton Warden John A. Milne, right, was honored last night (Wednesday) by county officials at the annual Warden's Banquet in Milton with gifts of a gavel and wristwatch. His wife also received a bouquet of flowers. Oakville Reeve William Card, left, made the presentations.

DOUBTFUL but thankful, one of the children in St. Joseph's Church Sunday school accepts a pre-Christmas gift from Santa Claus at the Sunday party in the Roxy theatre. Santa was a popular fellow as he handed out bags of candies to all the children.

Overflow Crowd Jams Auditorium For Robert Little School Concert

Jammed to capacity with an overflow crowd into the corridors, Robert Little public school auditorium held one of the largest crowds of parents and friends ever to attend a program last night (Wednesday) when the children from kindergarten to grade eight presented a musical Christmas concert.

A repetition of last year's idea for a Christmas concert pageant was enlarged upon by music teacher Glenn Banks, as it grew into a glowing and breathtaking program for the huge audience.

Children ranging in age from five to 13 went through hours of practice rehearsing songs and scripture readings, during the few short weeks prior to the concert.

200 on Stage

Over 300 children from the school appeared on the stage during the course of the evening's program.

Mr. Banks accompanied the songsters on the piano as well as leading the choir and was assisted by Doug Copeland who also directed. Many tireless hours were spent by teachers in preparing the material for the program and teaching the children.

Children reading scripture passages during part two of the program, which was of a religious nature, were coached by Mrs. Ann Gwizdala, grade eight teacher.

The program was presented in two parts with the majority of pupils at the Robert Little School participating.

Christmas Rush Sort 2,500 Letters Daily

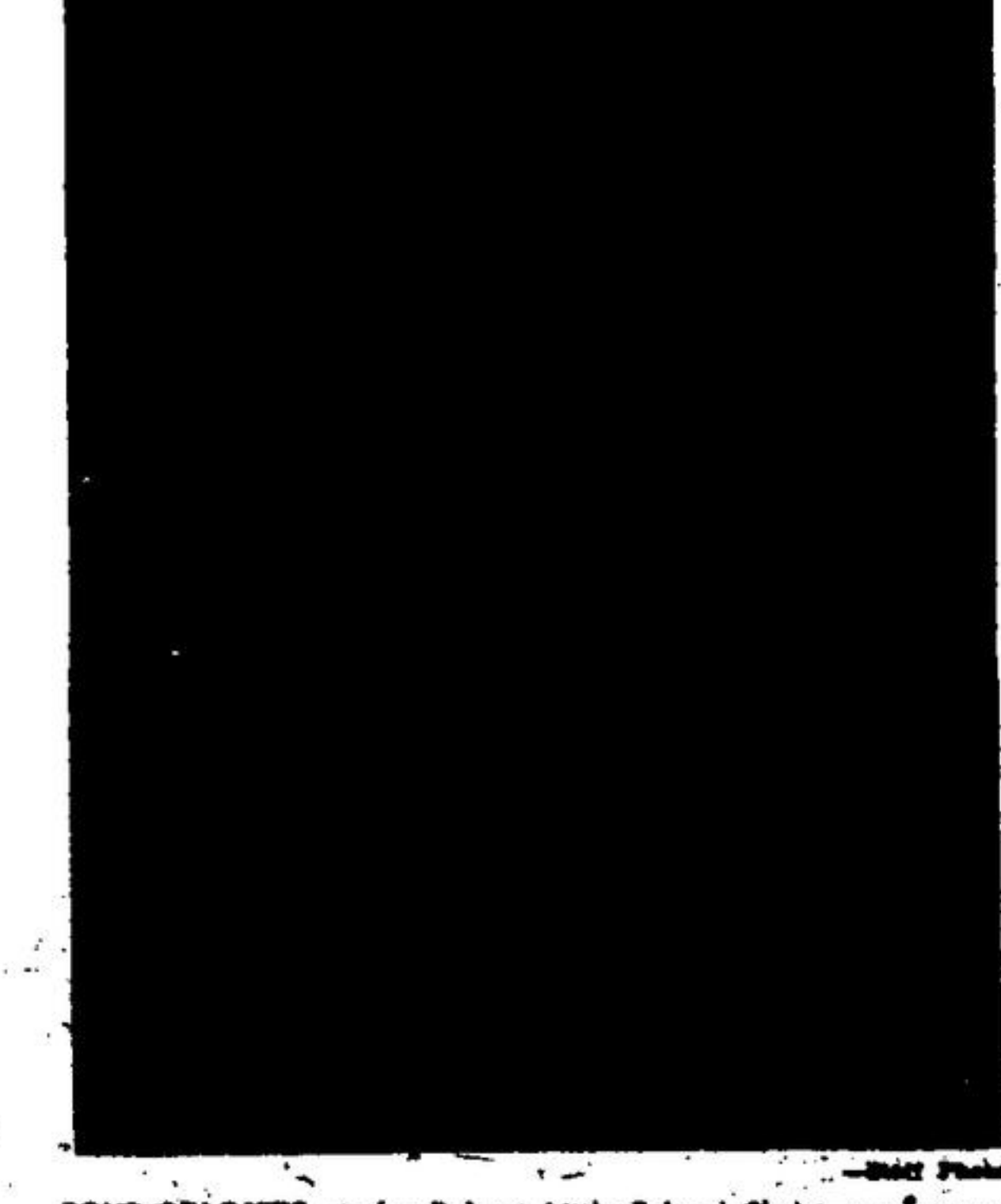
Christmas mail being dispensed at the Acton Post Office has just about reached its peak, according to assistant postmaster Gordon McKeown. He noted this week that between 50 and 60 bags of mail are being shipped daily from the post office and nearly 2,500 letters are being metered through the machine and sorted here for distribution.

An innovation was started in the Acton Post Office on Thursday, December 10, when a night shift was started to cope with mounting incoming and outgoing mail. The night shift also receive incoming mail from Toronto via a highway service truck.

Busy throughout the night sorting mail are Vic Bristow and Dave Dodgson, while four regular employees and four casual employees sift through the mail throughout the day.

Mr. McKeown expressed his sincere appreciation to the people of Acton for their co-operation in sending their Christmas mail early in order to allow his staff to keep pace with sorting and distribution.

On the regular post office staff are Mr. McKeown, Mrs. Chris. Britton, Mrs. Wilma Chapman, Mrs. Marge Masters, Vic Bristow and Dave Dodgson. Casual help for the Christmas rush are Mrs. J. Bryce, Mrs. H. Cook, Jean Lidka and Cam Leshman.



FOUR SOLOISTS at the Robert Little School Christmas concert last night (Wednesday) are pictured above following their performance on the stage when parents and friends packed the school auditorium. Shown left to right are: Scott Watson, Magdalena Wittbeard, Eileen Myers and Timmy Coles. Each child sang a chorus during the choir number.