The Acton Free Press.

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Eighty-Fifth Year.—No. 27. ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31st, 1959 Sixteen Pages—Seven Cents.

ROCKWOOD

Service by Candlelight Entertainment Featured

The annual Christmas entertainment of St. John's Church Sunday School was held in the Parish Hall last Tuesday evening and attended by parents and friends of the young folks.

Rev. H. B. Stokreef showed short film strips dealing with events in the birth of Christ till the time of his parents leaving for Egypt to get away from Herod who threatened the lives of children in order to do away with the infant Messiah. During the film strip showing, music was produced through a portable outfit brought to the hall and some singing enjoyed of Christmas numbers.

A short sing song with Miss Mary Lloyd at the piano and Rev. H. B. Stokreef leading in singing followed. At the conclusion of the program of Mrs. John Lloyd, chairs were arranged so all present could enjoy a brief refreshment period. In connection with Christmas presents on the tree Mr. Robert Vincent was Santa Claus. At the conclusion of the evening's program, Rev. H. B. Stokreef pronounced the benediction.

Candlelight Service

Thursday evening an impressive candlelight service was held in the United Church and largely attended. Rev. G. A. B. Moore led in the service, and through the program different ones took part in scripture readings, followed by singing of familiar Christmas hymns. Mr. J. Birtch of the Presbyterian Church was also present during the service.

Both aisles of the church had candle standards with five candles each, along with candles in each window and on the platform. Mrs. Marie Harris was at the organ throughout the service.

As the service commenced, members of the choir proceeded to the front seats with a young member bearing a lighted candle.

Good Attendance

Despite unfavorable weather Christmas morning, there was a good attendance at St. John's Church, Rev. H. B. Stokreef in charge assisted by Mr. Robert Vincent throughout. Holy Communion was observed.

Christmas Themes

Christmas themes were the order of services on Sunday.

At the Presbyterian Church, a few of the Sunday School scholars were presented with class pins for attendance. Owing to Church attendance somewhat affected by weather conditions, not all of the Sunday School young people were present for promotion to further advancement. Mr. Birtch officiated with Mr. Joe Freeman, superintendent, assisting.

Visitors Noted

Some of the Christmas visitors noticed for the weekend:

Mr. and Mrs. George Waller and family of Palmerston, Miss Ada Waller, Hamilton. Members of Dr. and Mrs. Waller's family who were home, Nancy and members of the family from Montreal and Victoria from Michigan.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Ventry of Guelph.

Rev. C. G. Harris, Selkirk, Ont.

Mrs. Annie McKinnon, Brampton.

BALLINAFAD

Road Dangerous Attendance Cut Following Storm

The trees are very heavily burdened with ice and are hanging their heads very low and the roads are very dangerous to drive on.

A car went out of control and broke off one of the gas pumps at the Pluff Garage on Saturday.

Guest Minister

Dr. Misener of Kitchener had charge of the service on Ballinafad charge on Sunday. The roads being so icy not too many were able to attend.

Constable George Gibson of the R.C.M.P. in Prince George, B.C., who has been holidaying at his home here has returned to his duties.

Caroline McEnery while skating had the misfortune to fall straining the ligaments of her leg and ankle very badly.

Dr. and Mrs. Clifford Reid spent Christmas with friends at Niagara.

Mr. Bill Brown and Mrs. Mary Jamieson of Georgetown with Mr. and Mrs. Leo Jamieson.

Mr. and Mrs. Kirby Williams of Woodbridge visited with Mr. and Mrs. Cam McEnery on Saturday.

A Happy New Year to all.

Mr. Wayne Hosking, Queen's University, Kingston.

Christmas guests with Mr. and Mrs. Max Milne were Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Hunter and family of Brantford, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Milne aand family of Acton, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Jestin and family of Everton, Mr. and Mrs. James Milne and family, Rockwood.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Milne, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas McNabb were guests at the Warden's dinner held in Milton to honor Mr. John A. Milne, retiring warden.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Milne over the Christmas holidays were Mr. and Mrs. M. Milne, Rockwood, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Plummer, Guelph, Mr. J. Holmes and Miss Helen Holmes, Georgetown.

Miss Pat Lloyd left Sunday by plane from Malton to Florida for Christmas and New Year's holidays.

Bad Weather

As a result of unfavorable weather, the young people are deprived of their skating pleasures and hockey.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Record Crowd Christmas Eve With Fifty Seated in Parish Hall

A record attendance came to St. Alban's Anglican church on Christmas eve for the midnight choral Eucharist. When the beautifully decorated church was completely filled, about 50 more were seated in the parish hall where they heard the service on the public address system set up by Les Dubv.

Mrs. C. Nellis was in charge of decorating the church. There were white tapers at each pew and the windows were attractively adorned. White flowers were placed on the altar.

The choir under organist Mrs. F. G. Oakes sang Night of Nights during the service.

The Christmas gospel was read to coincide with the midnight arrival of Christmas Day.

There was a great number of communicants, including those coming from the parish hall.

On Christmas day there was celebration of the Holy Eucharist at Acton at 9.30 a.m. and at Rockwood at 11 a.m.

Sunday was the feast of St. John the Apostle and Evangelist, with Holy Eucharist at 8.30 and 9.30, and mattins at 11 a.m.

Happy New Year

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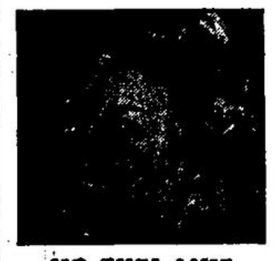

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Welcome to 1960! We greet the New Year with our very best wishes to all our good friends. May you enjoy happiness, health and prosperity this year and for many years to come.

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Let's take off into 1960 with the firm resolve that the year ahead will bring us closer to our goals, and may we all reach new heights of happiness.

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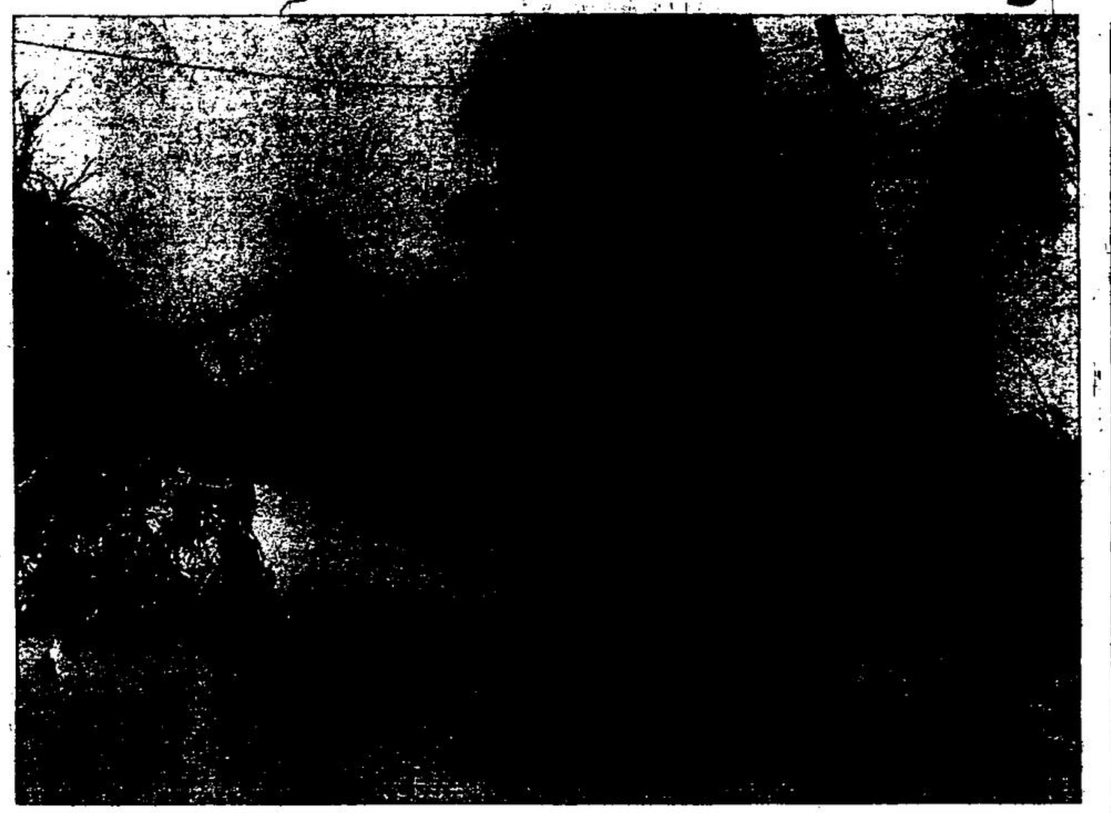
Ice Storm Creates Havoc Throughout Area



Hydro, Phones Hardest Hit

A treacherous five day storm, beginning Boxing Day, glazed the entire district with heavy, and hazardous ice. Repairs are still underway to correct the extensive damage.

Phone lines collapsed; live hydro wires crossed; slippery roads; cars went out of control and thick boughs snapped from trees coated with layer after layer of ice.

Fog and sleet beginning Saturday continued till Monday, replaced by heavy damp snow on Tuesday and Wednesday morning. The first sunshine for days Wednesday afternoon set myriad icicles on wires and fences dripping and the glittering coating on boughs smashing down to snow-covered streets.

Aftermath of Christmas found many hosts entertaining guests sitting huddled in coats by flickering candlelight. Power was off for hours in some sections of town and the district — and in some areas, for days.

Over 1184 subscribers were without telephones in the district as 23 rural lines were felled by ice. In town 36 lines went out of commission Sunday and weren't restored until Wednesday.

With many country roads impassable, there were fortunately no fire calls during the worst weather.

Lawns are still littered with limbs from crippled trees. Many have already been cut up and hauled away. Some trees were bent fantastically double.

Five Day Storm

Hydro and telephone lines were knocked out of commission, trees felled and poles snapped as a result of the crippling ice storm which struck the general area last Saturday and continued for five days.

Rural areas near Acton suffered the worst as hydro and telephone lines were severed when huge trees toppled across the lines. Some roads were blocked by fallen poles and trees.

C. S. Keith, area manager of the Bell Telephone, reported on Wednesday that service on the 36 urban phones were restored Wed-

Continued on Page Four

Council Supports Tilbury Petition For Equalized Fall Fair Grants

The windup of business for the 1959 council Tuesday evening saw council agree to support a resolution from the town of Tilbury to petition the prime minister and local member of legislature to consider equalized grants for the support of Community Centres buildings and arenas.

The resolution, accompanied by a letter from Tilbury, explained that grants approved by the Department of Agriculture to Agricultural Societies which hold a Class "A" fair amount to a maximum of $25,000 for community centres and a maximum of $15,000 for arenas. Smaller centres are only entitled to a 25 per cent grant of the total cost of building, up to a maximum of $5,000.

It is the intention of the petition to make equal grants available to all Agricultural Societies throughout [illegible].

A letter from H. E. [illegible] Ontario, forwarded to [illegible] P.U.C., informing [illegible] general cost of reading meters was based at 20 cents each, which covered all expenses. It was suggested however that if the hydro and water meters were read at the same time the cost could be levied at 15 cents. The letter was ordered filed.

Following a request from the Acton Agricultural Society, council agreed to rebate $35 rental for use of the town hall during the year.

Some Endorse

Assistant clerk J. T. Hurst informed council that the resolution urging the Credit Valley Conservation Authority to curtail further spending for a period of three years had been distributed to 15 communities for their approval and to date eight replies had been received.

Mr. Hurst noted that of the eight, four had endorsed the resolution and two others had indicated their support by writing they understood there would be no further capital expenditures.

Council was also informed their resolution urging support of persons 40 years of age and over in securing jobs had been distributed to 59 communities. To date 17 had endorsed it; four had taken no action and 38 communities had not sent replies. Mr. Hurst noted that Sandy Best, Halton M.P., had indicated his 100 per cent approval of the resolution.

The Acton Public School Board informed council by letter they had appointed W. Coon as their representative on the Acton High School District Board.

Enjoyed Portions

During the enquiries by members, at the final meeting of the year, councillor Hamilton Peal [illegible] to the [illegible] suffering [illegible] of [illegible] chairman [illegible] tation he had [illegible] for W. Cook thanked [illegible] councillor for his honest [illegible] and congratulated Mr. Peal for his efforts during the year. He expressed his disappointment that the councillor had not been able to stand for council again this term.

Councillor B. D. Rachlin enquired if there was any holdback on the heating system installed at the town hall and was informed there was not. Mr. Rachlin then voiced his opinion and asked it be recorded that he did not think the heating system was right.

Mr. Rachlin asked councillor J. Hargrave (who had jumped up to adjust the thermostat) what the indicator registered. When told it was a few degrees below the setting, Mr. Rachlin pointed out that something was wrong with the calibration of the thermostat.

The mayor informed Mr. Rachlin the contractor would be contacted to make adjustments.

Mr. Rachlin informed his colleagues that [illegible] been botherin[illegible] him [illegible] and asked [illegible] Ste[illegible] chairma[illegible] Foster urged [illegible] the sta[illegible] smoke was [illegible] Free P[illegible] house. Utilities [illegible] a re[illegible] had re[illegible] could [illegible] commission.

The mayor informed the coun-

(Continued on Next Page)

All 13 Operators Work On Busiest Christmas

Switchboard operators at the Acton telephone office were all on duty at Christmas this year. Each of the 13 girls took a four hour schedule in order to handle the many calls flooding the switchboard on Christmas Day.

Mrs. M. S. Ford, chief operator, reported that the longest call put through the Acton office was to London, England, with another call serviced through Acton to Denver, Colorado.

The operators were kept busy throughout the day and night as lights flashed with calls coming in and going out of town.

Mrs. Ford reported this Christmas to be the busiest she has experienced since coming to Acton as local representative for the Bell Telephone. She also pointed out that New Years is expected to be a busy time at the office here and she has scheduled the operators' times much similar to Christmas.

Any persons wishing to place calls to distant place are requested to notify the operators ahead of time in order to provide prompt and efficient service.

Early Morning Fire Destroys Area Home

Three people were left homeless early this morning when fire levelled the back kitchen and water and smoke damaged antique furniture in the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Clement Foster on the fourth line south of Acton. Flames raged through the two-storey frame and stone building before dawn.

Mr. Foster was overcome by smoke and after being taken to the home of neighbor James Turner, received medical attention from a Georgetown doctor.

In the home at the time the fire started were Mr. and Mrs. Foster and Mildred Reamsbottom, a sister of Mrs. Foster's.

Miss Reamsbottom explained that Mr. Foster had lit a fire in the fireplace. An early riser, she was in the hall. Out the back window she noticed flames shooting from the roof of the back kitchen.

Call to the two [illegible] house to get ou[illegible] Foster urged [illegible] smoke was [illegible] house.

two ladies [illegible] saved their fur coats a[illegible] before they were taken to the home of Mr. Turner.

Mr. Turner noticed the flames from his home approximately half a mile away. He summoned Frank Benton, a neighbor, to drive to Limehouse to phone the alarm to Acton since the area has been without telephones since Monday due to the ice storm.

Narrowly missing being in the building was another sister, Mrs. Muriel Howard, who had left for home on Wednesday.

Long Weekend

Stores close up at 6 p.m. on New Year's Eve and don't open again until Monday morning at 9 a.m. Most merchants are taking both New Year's Day and Saturday as holidays, but will be open on their regular holiday, Monday.

Transport Hits Darting Deer

Another deer was killed in the district Wednesday evening of last week, and this one met its fate on the front bumper of a [illegible] from [illegible]

The [illegible] as the [illegible] the truck [illegible] west of Acton. [illegible] 200 dam-

Letter Boxes

Beginning January 1 residents in Lakeview and Glenlea subdivisions will be able to post letters in their own district without having to walk to the main post office on Mill Street.

This week Joe Jocque is installing the street letter boxes in the subdivision and will commence gathering mail from them on January 2.

Assistant postmaster Gord McKeown pointed out this week that the box in Glenlea will be located at the corner of Longfield Road and Roseford Terrace while the one in the Lakeview area will be situated on Elizabeth Drive between Tyler and Jeffrey Avenues.

Mail will be picked up from all street letter boxes at 5 p.m. daily with the exception of Sunday.

HAPPY NEW YEAR