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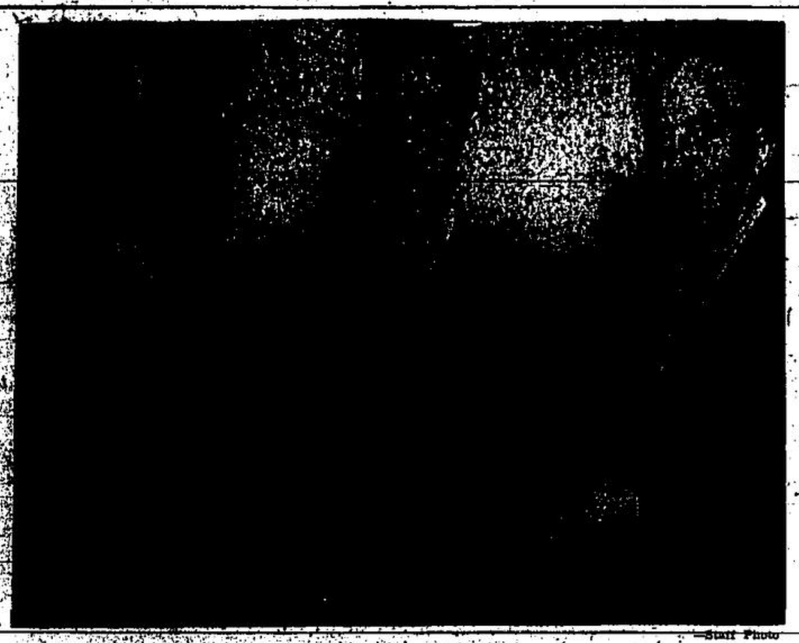


—Staff Photo

HALTON'S 1960 WARDEN is Reeve Douglas Sargent of Georgetown, centre, who was named to the post at the inaugural meeting of county council Tuesday afternoon. Crown Attorney P. K. McWilliams, left, administered the oath of office to the county's new chief magistrate, while retiring Warden John A. Milne presented the Warden's gavel.

Ontario Steel Plating Closes

The Plating Department of Ontario Steel Products Company Limited will close on January 29th, Ian Flemming, manager of the Milton Division of Ontario Steel announced this week.

An estimated 100 employees will be affected by the close. Many Acton residents are presently employed in that department.

Ontario Steel Products Co. Ltd. president, E. S. Byers in a letter to employees explains the plant closing would be for an indefinite period. He pointed out that for some time it had not been economically sound to continue the operation, and there was nothing in the immediate future that might change that situation.

Mr. Flemming emphasized that the Spring Manufacturing section of the Milton plant would not be affected by the closing of the Plating Department.

The Plating Dept. covers an estimated 40,000 square feet.

Georgetown Reeve D. Sargent Beats Alex Phillips in Race for 1960 Warden

Reeve Douglas Sargent of Georgetown was chosen Warden of Halton County for 1960 by fellow county councillors at the inaugural meeting on Tuesday afternoon. He defeated Trafalgar Reeve Alex Phillips in a close race for the seat, by a 14-13 open ballot.

The new Warden is a veteran of nine consecutive years in Georgetown council, and for the past five years has been a representative to County level government. Stanley Allen, Halton Manor superintendent, was the last Georgetown Warden five years ago, and prior to that, the Wardenship had not been held by the municipality for 21 years.

Devote Best Efforts

"I promise to devote my best efforts to serving you and the County well," he said in thanking the members. "I feel confident I can count on each and every one of you to lighten the big load."

Following the announcement of the 14-13 vote, Reeve Phillips offered his congratulations to Warden Sargent and asked members to make the vote unanimous in his favor. Crown Attorney P. K. McWilliams administered the oath of office to the Warden, and retiring Warden John A. Milne, Nassagaweya's Reeve, presented the gavel.

1917 Warden Present

Among the spectators at the inaugural was Charles Readhead of Lowville, who held the post of Warden in 1917.

Council members this year are Warden Sargent and Deputy Reeve Walter Gray of Georgetown, Reeve John Goy and Deputy Reeve Jack Hargrave of Acton, past Warden John A. Milne and Deputy Reeve Archie R. Service of Nassagaweya, Reeve Campbell Sinclair and Deputy Reeve Wilfrid Bird of Esquesing; Reeve Arthur M. Desjardine and Deputy Reeve Mrs. Mary S. Pettit of Milton, Reeve Alex Phillips and Deputy Reeve Fred Near of Trafalgar, Reeve F. I. Ryckman and Deputy Reeve William J. Bennett of Burlington, and Reeve Herbert Merry and Deputy Reeve Fred C. Tilley of Oakville.

Council's striking committee, composed of the Reeves of each municipality, named the following committees for 1960:

Agriculture and Reforestation: chairman Sinclair, Service, Merry, Ryckman and Near.

County Buildings: chairman Desjardine, Tilley, Bird, Gray and Hargrave.

Finance, Hospitalization, Assessment and Civil Defence: chairman Tilley, Milne, Phillips, Bennett and Goy.

County Roads: chairman Milne, Phillips, Bennett, Desjardine and Sinclair.

Legislation, By-laws and Reception: chairman Ryckman, Pettit, Service, Bird and Merry.

Seven on Planning

Planning: chairman Phillips, Service, Merry, Ryckman, Hargrave, Bird and Pettit.

Printing, Education and Special Communications: chairman Goy, Sinclair, Bennett and Near.

Halton Centennial Manor Board: chairman Milne, Sargent, Goy, Desjardine and Phillips.

Board of Health: council appointments are Pettit and Gray; Other members are W. T. Dales, Robert Marshall and Ray Thompson.

County Board of Audit: The Warden and treasurer Miss M. Maxted.

Plea for Aid

The Crown Attorney made a strong plea for some solution to the problems in administration of justice space at the Court House, when he noted council was meeting that day in the Milton town hall instead of the Court House, because of a large citizenship court. He said it was becoming increasingly hard to avoid conflicts in meeting and court times, and asked haste in the erection of a new administration building.

Members authorized the borrowing of up to $1,000,000 to meet the expenses of the year. It was agreed to approve the salary increases for employees, as recommended in the finance committee report at the last meeting.

Delegates to Meeting

Memberships of $10 each were renewed in the Association of Assessing Officers, and the Municipal Clerks and Finance Officers Association. The agricultural committee was delegated to the annual convention of the Ontario Agricultural Council, in February, with expenses paid by the county. Also approved was the annual $50 membership fee in the council.

Payment of the $750 subsidy for Halton farm ponds to the Department of Agriculture was approved. It was noted the money was provided for in the 1959 budget.

Parks Board Discuss Grandstand, Arena Appoint R.R. Parker Chairman, Tuesday

Acton Board of Parks Management returned R. R. Parker for another term as chairman and Mrs. G. Fryer as secretary during their first meeting of the year on Tuesday evening.

An enquiry by Mrs. Fryer regarding the possibility of a grandstand at the park launched a short discussion by the members on the various aspects of the project.

G. V. Barbeau, council representative on the board, stated he didn't believe a grandstand was warranted to the extent of the cost involved to the public.

Ivan Kilby reminded the board they had a lot of important work to do at the park this year and stated, "We will be jumping the gun a little bit to consider a grandstand."

The board discussed the number of people who attended ball games during the summer months and the crowd attending the Fall Fair, in an attempt to clarify the need of a grandstand.

Mrs. Fryer suggested perhaps a bleacher could be installed with the idea of expanding it when necessary. The board did not pursue the proposal further.

A letter from the Minor Sports Committee requested the board to send representation to a meeting in the fire hall that same evening to discuss the possibility of the formation of an arena committee. It was noted in the letter that representatives of various organizations would be present.

Ivan Kilby was appointed to represent the Parks Board at the next meeting held for this purpose and bring back information for the board's attention.

Near the conclusion of the meeting, C. F. Leatherland and E. G. Tyler Sr. were present to enquire if the board had at any time refused to accept the arena from the town council. After reviewing the previous minutes, the board found no definite action had been taken previously. Members agreed they would be willing to discuss the proposal of turning the arena over to the Board of Parks Management and were willing to meet with council regarding this.

Mr. Barbeau informed the two citizens the board was willing to take over the arena but would require some assistance from the town in operating it.

An account submitted during

Continued on Page Four

Derailed Train Ties Up Traffic On C.N.R. Line

In case anyone wondered why no trains tooted through Acton between the hours of 5.15 and 10.30 on Tuesday evening, the mystery was unfolded by station agent George Angell and operator Jim Inglis on Wednesday morning.

The two Acton officials reported that a way freight engine operating between Toronto and Brampton was derailed at a switch entering the main line at Malton and tied up traffic until an auxiliary crane was brought from Toronto to lift the diesel back on the tracks.

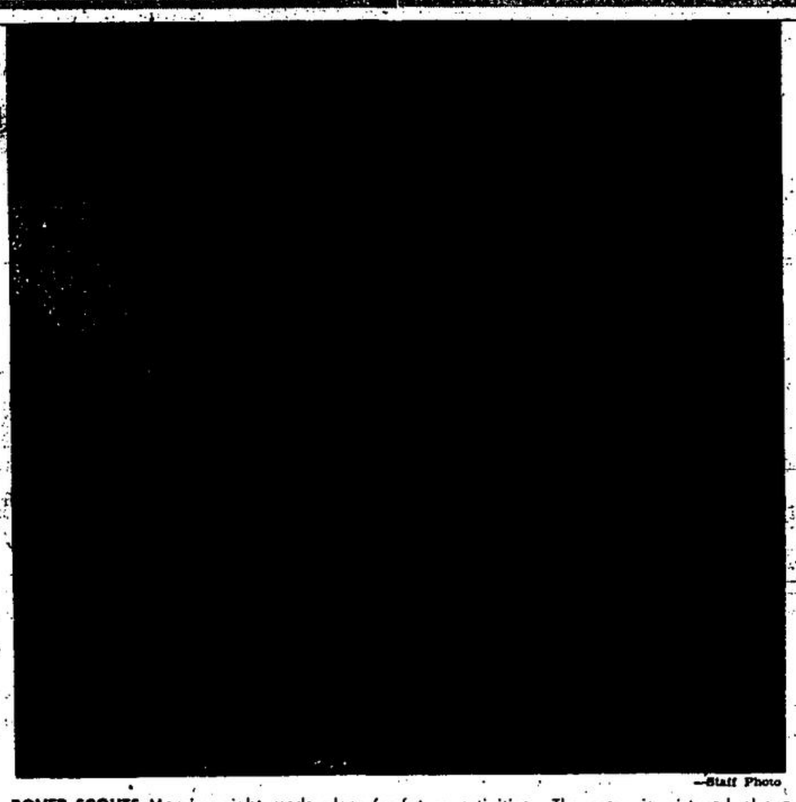
Commuters from Acton to Toronto, returning from work in the city, received additional mileage for their fare when the train due in Acton at 6.12 was re-routed through Burlington and Galt, arriving in Guelph at 8 p.m. From Guelph the commuters to Acton were transported by taxi or private car.

The first train to arrive in Acton from the east reached here at 10.30 instead of its scheduled time of 6.44.

Mr. Inglis reported no one was hurt in the mishap but several passengers arrived home late for their evening meal.

—Next Monday, January 25 is Burns night.

—Hospital campaigns are being launched in Brampton and Georgetown.



—Staff Photo

ROVER SCOUTS Monday night made plans for future activities. The crew is pictured above prior to starting their meeting. Shown in the front row, left to right, are Laurence Duby, Peter Newton and Brian Otterbein. Pictured in the centre of the group is Bob Hinton and shown in back row, left to right, are Mike Homer, Ken Gardner, crew leader Ron Smith, Rickey Currie and Dave Peal. The first Billy Midddleton Rover Crew was formed last week.

A. P. Green Co. Install Bases For Missiles

G. V. Barbeau, manager of the A. P. Green Company in Acton, announced today (Thursday) that a branch of the company has received the contract to provide all refractories and installation service for the new Saturn project at Cape Canaveral, Florida.

This will be the largest refractory launching facility constructed to date.

The original castable launching platforms for the Redstone missiles at Cape Canaveral were provided and installed by the same company.

Rabies Quarantines Increase Shelter Short of Space — Merry

"We feel we are unable to do any more for the County," chairman Herbert Merry of the Oakville and District Humane Society told County Council Tuesday afternoon when he explained the plight of the association in caring for animals suspected of rabies.

Mr. Merry, also Reeve of Oakville and a member of the County Council, explained the Society Shelter at Oakville had been used to quarantine these suspected animals but the need for the service has far outgrown the quarters. "We feel there is a need for separate isolation building for these cases," he declared.

The Reeve explained the residents of Oakville and Trafalgar had erected the shelter, but the Society had expanded to serve the county. Only 50c a day is charged owners for the animal care, while costs are sometimes as much as $1.50 daily. "We ended 1959 with a $6,000 deficit," he said. "We will just have to bill the municipalities involved."

Members agreed to study the problem and discuss it again at the February meeting. Mr. Merry, meanwhile, was asked to bring his recommendations back to council.

Section Crew Feet From Death As 4,000-Volt Power Line Falls

Four C.N.R. sectionmen were fortunate in stopping their jigger at noon on Friday just seconds before an ice-laden 4,000 volt primary feeder line burned out and crashed to the ground mowing down a number of telegraph lines. Power was accidentally relayed through the seared telegraph lines causing damage in the station and as far away as Rockwood.

Had the sectionmen on the car not stopped for an oncoming jigger transporting some telegraph workers they might have been directly underneath the high tension wires which burned right into the rails.

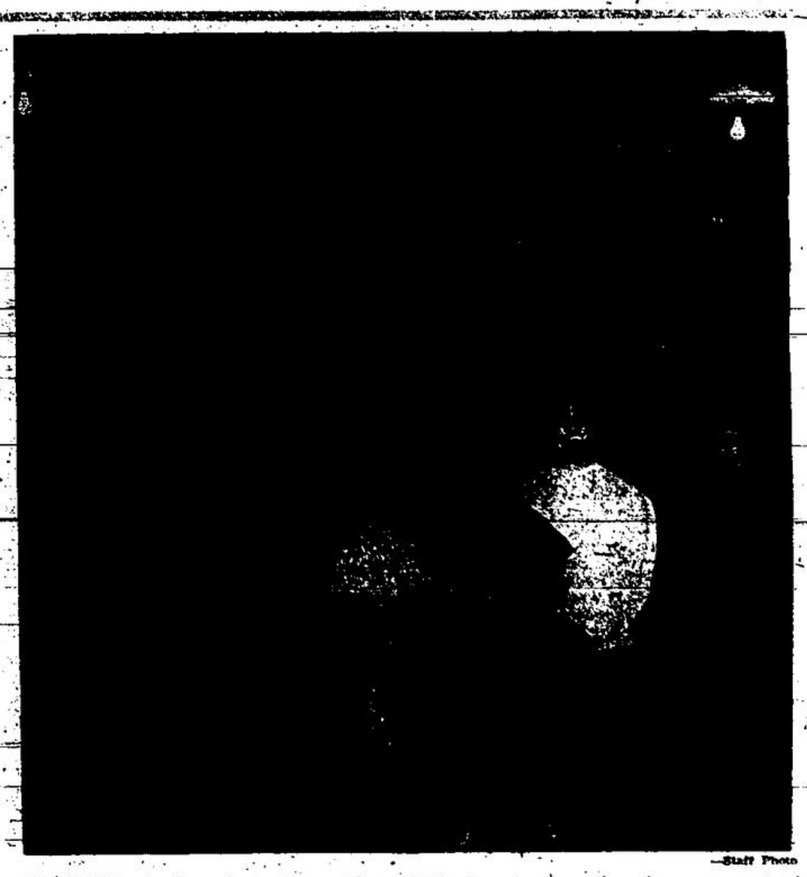
The crossing signals were thrown out of commission and power to the A. P. Green Firebrick Company was out for approximately an hour. Traffic was tied up at the Mill Street crossing until workers cleared the mass of tankled wire off the roadway.

Lights in the C.N.R. station were knocked out. Station agent George Angell and operator Jim Inglis had to resort to the phone for relaying messages to outside points when the teletype machine was unable to operate.

Working throughout the afternoon the telegraph linesmen and Acton hydro workers had the line cleared, service restored to the station and crossing signals back in operation by evening.

Riding on the road car were Bert Urquhart, foreman; George Paul, Stu McDonald and Al Green.

They thank their lucky stars for that brief stop waiting for the approaching jigger.



—Staff Photo

BIG EVENT in the lives of nine Acton girls came Monday afternoon when they were received into the Brownie group. Seven of the youngsters are pictured above with their leaders. Shown sitting in front on the left is Linda Lingham and on the right Pat Nicolak. Kneeling on the left is Carol Kelly and on the right Sylvie Hanousek. Left to right, in the third row, are Sharon White, Joanne Wasowicz and Brenda McKeown. Pictured at the back, left to right, are Mrs. B. R. Lingham, Tawny Owl; District Commissioner Mrs. G. Adams and Brown Owl Mrs. E. G. Dunn. Missing when picture was taken were Heather Ann Dumarch and Mary Heikamp.

P.O. Duel

People checking the time by the clock above the post office have got a wierd variety of answers this week—many of them highly improbable. The ice and Cam Leishman are duelling for control. Every time the clock is reset ice forms again and the time goes haywire.

No Books

The library remained closed Friday. The building was pitched into darkness by another power failure. The patient crews of weary workmen located the trouble on John St. and power was restored to homes in that area at about 8.15 p.m.

Rabid Cow

A heifer cow owned by Murray Bros., R. R. 1, Acton, died of rabies on Tuesday, January 12, following the finding of a rabid skunk in the barn earlier in December, according to a report from the Health of Animals branch in Brampton.

The remainder of the herd has been quarantined for a two month period.

Dr. W. I. McCabe of the Brampton office investigated and sent the heads of the animals to Hull, Quebec, where the tests proved positive for rabies.

Seven Winners Will Compete

Winners in the public speaking competitions have been selected at both public schools, and these seven will compete tonight (Thursday) to represent Acton in further competition against other schools in the inspectorate.

Winners at the M. Z. Bennett school are Marie Huisman, Jill Hurst and Ann Vale. Robert Little school winners are Mary Grischow, Don Harris, Dianne Shultis and Gay White.

Pupils from grades six, seven and eight were entered. Elimination to determine the winners has been going on all week.

The district finals will be held in the Robert Little school on Friday, January 29.

The seven will give their prepared speeches tonight at the Home and School meeting, to select one as the town's entry.

Damage Continues to Pile Up Following Crippling Ice Storms

Many trees are ruined, telephone and hydro lines completely destroyed, communities isolated and sand pile stocks nearly depleted in many areas as a result of the crippling ice storm which first struck between Christmas and New Year's and has been vigorously renewed several times since.

The latest storm which struck Acton and district dealt the worst blow of all when it destroyed power and telephone lines already repaired after the previous storm and ruined a number of sturdy trees.

In rural areas farmers were forced to milk by hand as milking machines were without power to operate. Chores had to be done by hand when other pieces of equipment were rendered useless due to the power shortage. Telephones were knocked out of commission and communication has been cut off to many areas for days.

Tangle of Wires

The weight of the ice on the wires became so heavy that the drooping lines broke hundreds of poles and as they crashed to the ground, wires became so tangled it was impossible to salvage many of them.

Extra telephone and hydro crews were called into the Acton area to cope with the extensive damage in an attempt to restore power and telephones to isolated areas.

Throughout the Guelph area, which includes Shelburne, Orangeville, Arthur, Fergus, Elora and Acton, 3,600 rural telephones were out of order. This is a total of 1,100 more than went out during the first ice storm.

An emergency microwave unit has been set up at Hillsburgh and another of greater power is being erected near Everton in Eramosa township.

Keep Toll Circuits Open

Clare Keith, manager of the Guelph area of the Bell Telephone Co., reported on Tuesday of this week that his company has been able to keep toll circuits established to every centre in spite of constant interruptions.

In Erin a mobile unit was established to pick up emergency calls only.

Nearly 200 extra telephone linemen have been transferred to the Guelph area in an attempt to speed up repair work. The repairmen come from Barrie, Orillia, London, St. Catharines, North Bay, Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie, Brantford, Peterborough, Simcoe, Chatham and Toronto. They are being billeted in the area in which they are working.

On Tuesday, the Bell company moved a giant arc welder into the Acton area in an attempt to melt the ice from the wires. A test run of the machine was given near Everton on No. 24 Highway where the ice is reported to be the heaviest.

Chain Reaction

On the second line, north of Acton, one of the telephone crews ran into an extra headache. When they were attempting to clear the lines, one of the poles snapped off and started a chain reaction, bringing down several poles one after the other, tangling wires and crippling the phone service even more. Dismayed workmen could only stand and watch and then add up the new damage.

South of Acton, hydro and telephone workers teamed up in an attempt to sort out the various wires as telephone and hydro lines became entangled.

Telegraph linesmen have been making repairs to broken lines along the C.N.R. right-of-way and Department of Highway workmen have had their share of headaches attempting to keep highways clear of ice and snow as they plowed and spread load after load of sand along the main arteries.

Many Overtime Hours

Acton hydro workers have worked many overtime hours repairing broken services to homes, trimming trees and replacing broken poles. Superintendent Doug Mason and workers Dorson Frizzell, Ralph Hodgson and Don Anderson worked from the middle of the night throughout the day without eating in an attempt to clear up debris and restore power in many areas.

Ice weighted wires tore whole services from many homes and a transformer on Brock Ave. was smashed. Fallen trees on the Crescent broke hydro lines and threw part of the area into darkness.

Trees which once beautified the town have been reduced to skeletons as branches, sagging under the weight of the ice, cracked off and crashed to the ground.

Town workmen have shared in the additional work as they cleared broken trees and branches from the streets, plowed and sanded the roads and repaired a broken watermain in driving snow and sleet besides their regular chores.

Tuesday's and Wednesday's sunshine was a welcome sight to everyone involved in repairing the damage as the thick ice encasing branches and wires began to melt. Splattering ice chunks sounded like machine gun fire as they struck houses, cars or the ground.