

# The Acton Free Press.

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50 YEARS AGO Monday night E. J. Hassard, former Acton druggist, now retired, joined Walker Lodge A.F. & A.M. He was honored by fellow members on the anniversary when he was presented with his 50 year Veteran's Jewel. Worshipful Brother Hassard was presented the medal by Very Worshipful Brother Herb Ritchie. Right Worshipful Brother A. J. Buchanan, District Deputy Grand Master of Wellington District, pinned the medal on his lapel. Pictured above left to right are R. W. Bro. A. J. Buchanan, D.D.G.M., W. Bro. E. J. Hassard and V. W. Bro. H. Ritchie.

## Commission Debate

### "Rough" to Cancel Hydro Bonuses Now, Will Review

Mellowed by soft glimmering colored lights and sparkling Yuletide tree lighting the office, Acton Hydro Commissioners Thursday evening, December 8, approved payment of the annual Christmas cash bonuses to salaried employees and ordered large turkeys for three hydro linesmen. Commissioners agreed to take a second peek at the practice the early part of next year and set out a policy long before Christmas.

Sharing in the commission's treasurer Mrs. Audrey Urquhart, meter reader Newt Hurst and superintendent D. Mason. Linesmen slated to receive a turkey each are D. Frizell, K. Hodgson and D. Anderson.

**Practice for Years**  
Before this decision was reached, the commission engaged in a lengthy discussion and even recalled back before 1947 when the former P.U.C. gave cash bonuses. Commissioner Gord Beatty said the basic principle of a bonus for the hydro employees was unassailable and that salaries should cover everything. He pointed out that in his book a bonus was to give incentive to workers. Chairman E. G. Tyler Sr. reviewed the practice of the former P.U.C. and told the members this had been going on long before his time in municipal government.

Mayor J. Gov. pondering the question carefully, noted he would like to see the commission recognize everyone at the same level. It was Commissioner Gord McCutcheon's opinion that no barrier should be set up against non-union and union employees. "If we are going to give something, everyone should be included," he remarked.

Mr. Beatty, changing his stance on the bonus question, told the commission perhaps it might be a little rough to suddenly cut off the bonuses just two weeks before Christmas. He suggested

that a different policy be set for next year.

**Salary Upped**  
Hanging fire for some months, the question of a salary increase to hydro superintendent Doug Mason was settled and an increase amounting to \$150 per annum was approved. Payment was made retroactive to October 4.

Commissioners engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding the proposed capital budget for next year and reviewed projects under consideration as well as anticipated costs.

The secretary informed the members that a safety display requested by them would possibly be available some time the first part of the year.

**Examine Evidence**  
A perforated light bulb attracted the attention of the commission as they carefully examined one of the bulbs used as the target for some sharpshooters in the Glenlea area. Members agreed it was evident the holes had been made by a high power gun shooting a small pellet. Faced with the problem of replacing more expensive type globes valued at

around \$9, the commission is attempting to apprehend the culprits in order to save the rate payers this added expense.

Letters were received from the Ontario Hydro outlining the low power factor at several industries, noting that tests had been made and reports submitted.

Approval was given the secretary to pay solicitor Aldo Brada \$13 as the commission's share of expenses for drafting the plan and gathering information regarding the Alice St. property purchased recently from the town.

It was agreed to close the office on Elgin St. from 7 p.m. December 23 to 9 a.m. December 27 for Christmas and from 7 p.m. December 30 to 9 a.m. January 3 for New Year's.

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Thompson Motors	\$ 315
Toth Motors	1188
J. R. Kearney Corp.	118.90
Wm. Kinell and Co.	23.27
A. B. Chance Co.	73.60
R. Thompson Fuels	109.82
Confederation Life	480.00
	\$771.62

## South Seeks More County Power Claims Big Revenue, Little Voice

South Halton members of Halton County council appealed for a better split in county voting powers Tuesday, at the final meeting of the 1960 county council in Milton. After some discussion the matter was pushed into the laps of the new 1961 council for consideration of some equal power in county voting.

Oakville Reeve Fred Tilley voiced the complaint to council Tuesday, noting that Oakville and

Trafalgar may soon be amalgamated and the county voting power of either one of the other municipalities would be lost entirely. When the old village of Bronte and the former Nelson Township were in the county system, he noted, the voting was evenly spread. However, Nelson and Bronte votes have been completely lost in the past few years and if the amalgamation goes through, the northern municipalities

of Milton, Acton, Georgetown, Esquesing and Nassagaweya townships would be able to outvote the southern Burlington and Oakville-Trafalgar areas by two to one.

The south, he pointed out, provides about 85 per cent of the total Halton assessment and about 85 per cent of the population yet the voting would soon be unevenly split, giving the north a disproportionate voice.

Reviewing the past year, the Warden listed as council's accomplishments the purchase of a site and engaging of architects for the new county building, the beginning of the 92-acre reforestation area at Hornby and the institution of a road study group to forecast future road requirements.

Including a note of humor into the evening, past warden Bill Card of Oakville outlined the progress of the Halton Unemployed Relief Association over the past year. This non-existent organization was formed last year when Bob Cunningham of Milton, George Currie of Esquesing and MF Card all lost out in election battles for positions of warden.

Trafalgar Deputy Reeve Fred Near presented the Warden's gavel to the retiring warden.

## Issue Warning

Corporal Ray Mason of the Acton O.P.P. Detachment issued a warning to citizens today to use extra caution during the holiday season.

He warned against leaving homes unlocked and parcels displayed in the open where thieves might be tempted to break into the home. He also advised leaving lights on in the home when visiting. Always tell baby sitters the telephone number of the police.

## Struck By Car Youngster Hurt

Nine-year-old Harry Barenz, Church Street, escaped with cuts and bruises when he was knocked down by a car driven by Tom Reed, Georgetown, Wednesday evening, December 14.

Engaged in a snowball throw, the youngster, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Barenz, darted onto Mill Street in front of the Y.M.C.A. and was struck by the passing vehicle.

He was treated for a bruised thigh and minor cuts by Dr. W. G. C. Kenney and allowed to return to his home. O.P.P. constable Weyl Harness investigated the incident.

## 20 New Brownies Join Packs Saturday

On Saturday the 1st, 2nd and 4th Brownie Packs joined together in an enrollment ceremony. Altogether 20 new Brownies joined the various packs.

Many mothers and fathers were present. Coffee and cookies served by the Scout and Guide mothers were very welcome and appreciated.

Brown Owl would welcome any uniforms no longer required by old Brownies.

New Brownies are Judy Dwyer, Shaerlene Higgins, Bonnie Garvin, Georgina Angell, Joan Gibbons, Colleen Perkins, Brenda Denny, Mari Anne Collins, Debbie Reed, Susan Glendinning, Joanne Healey, Gayle Ross, Bobbie Nesset, Marsha McKenzie, Laurie Ironside, Jane Watson, Cheryl Lee, Ellen Wissenz, Donna Taylor and Debbie Jordan.

## Store Hours

Christmas store hours, started Monday — the first day of added shopping time for the year's biggest and brightest rush. Many stores were open all day Monday and others will join them next week. On Thursday evening (tonight) store hours will begin staying open for late shoppers.

The daily decorated stores with attractively displayed merchandise are very enticing. As usual, the merchants are doing their part to convince Actonians it's best to "shop at home".

# Deal With Zoning By-law Changes Allow Garages, Business Expansion

Acton Council Monday evening passed two amending by-laws which incorporate the recommendations of the Planning Board. These by-laws are now sent to the Ontario Municipal Board for their approval. Before the O.M.B. will approve the changes a public hearing will be held at which interested persons may present their views.

The first by-law is an amendment to the official plan and deals with a change of zone on two properties on Queen Street East. The property of Frank Prouse's behind his garage is to be changed from residential to C4. The property of J. Stewart at Woodvale Road and Queen Street is to be rezoned to Commercial from Residential.

The by-law amending the zoning by-law deals with four specific problems. The recommendations covering the accessory buildings (garages) has been dealt with by three changes. Houses presently zoned may build a garage with side and rear clearances of 46'. The building must not be closer than 10' from the existing building on lots not already built on. The builder must conform to the present regulations if the garage is attached. If no garage is attached a minimum of 15' must be allowed on one side of the building.

In homes already built where two adjoining homeowners agree a double garage may be built with a common wall on the lot line between the two properties.

The second change in the zoning by-law is the rezoning of the new town works department yard to M2 from residential with restrictions to apply should the land no longer be used for this purpose.

A change of zone on the A.P. Green property on Wallace Ave. to M2 from M1 is also recommended.

The fourth change in the by-law is to allow an automatic Bell Telephone dial exchange in a residential area.

Council also made appointments to public boards for various terms. The clerk was authorized to issue any property acquired by the town through registrations of tax certificates.

To the Planning Board, R. H. Elliott for three years, J. Bert Wood for two years replacing H. H. Burton, Franklin Prouse for two years replacing Bud Evans.

To the High School Board for one year L. S. Force and Dwight Fugel.

To the Committee of Adjustment, Jack Doherty for three years.

To the Credit Valley Conservation Authority for one year, R. R. Parker.

Approval was also given for the installation of a six phone fire alarm system at a cost of \$24 a month.

Councillor McLeod registered council's opinion of a long-range development program at the arena. During discussion Clerk McGeehan informed members it was expected the ice in the arena would be ready for public skating Wednesday evening (14th night).

Councillor Field presented a request for flooding of a natural skating area in the Glenlea subdivision. Citizens had approached him suggesting they would prepare the site if it could be flooded by firemen or town workmen.

Council tentatively agreed to have town workmen flood the area initially and Mayor Gow suggested there was no problem that could not be overcome.

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PRIZED LETTER received by 10-year-old Bobby Bonnette from president-elect, John F. Kennedy is admired over and over. The Acton youngster wrote a letter congratulating Mr. Kennedy on winning the presidency and this week received a reply signed personally.

## Two Fires in 13 Minutes One Pumper Under Repair

With one piece of firefighting equipment under repair and two alarms within 13 minutes, Acton Fire Fighters were forced to press their antique 1927 Studebaker fire truck into service Monday afternoon.

A representative from American Marsh Pumps, busy repairing number one pumper, jumped from underneath the truck in the fire hall when the siren summoned firemen at 4:02 p.m. to control a blazing chimney at the home of W. Roszell, Peel St. With the pump on number one truck out of order, firemen sent number two truck along in the event water was necessary.

Two firemen answering the call were anxious to return to work and a bystander offered them a lift to the fire hall to change clothes.

**Second Alarm**  
En route they heard the siren blow for the second time and at the fire hall, learned another call from the home of Stanley Swackhamer had been reported. Knowing both pieces of equipment were at the Roszell fire and one pumper was disabled, two firemen jumped back in the bystander's car and were driven to the home on Ransome Street, to find the occupant had become alarmed when he feared overheated stovepipes would result in a serious fire.

Everything checked and the

resident assumed things were under control, the two firemen (and bystander) returned to the hall just as more firemen were wheeling "Old Faithful" the 1927 Studebaker out of the doors to go to the Swackhamer fire.

Returning to the hall, firemen on number one truck were amazed to learn a second call had been sent in. High winds prevented them from hearing the siren at the Roszell fire.

The smoke ejector was used in the Roszell home, a chain was used to clean the chimney from the roof and water was doused down. Damage was slight.

Damage was slight.

## Santa Arrives By Helicopter

Barring a sleet storm or icing conditions, Santa Claus will arrive in Acton park by helicopter, Saturday at 2:45 to greet all his little friends once more. His trip to Acton will be sponsored again this year by the retail section of the Chamber of Commerce.

After his plane has touched down in the centre of the park, the jolly old fellow will bring joy to some lucky person when he makes the weekly merchant's draw from the large drum and hands out \$50.

# 175 County Officials Pay Tribute To Retiring Warden Doug Sargent

Halton County Council ended an active year on Tuesday of this week when Warden Douglas Sargent, Reeve of Georgetown, entertained county council members, county employees, elected representatives, and the warden's family at the annual warden's dinner event in Georgetown Legion Hall. A group of 175 gathered to pay tribute to the man who has steered County Council through a bustling year of progress.

At the conclusion of the program, the warden and his wife were honored by the presentation of a silver tea service, and flowers for Mrs. Sargent.

Head table guests included Halton M.P.P. Stanley and Mrs. Hall, Rev. Father Otter Devent of the warden's church in Georgetown, past warden Bill Card of Oakville, Esquesing Reeve Campbell Sinclair, past warden Reeve Mary S. Pettit of Milton, the warden's mother Mrs. Chris Sargent, program chairman and former town mayor Jack Armstrong, Trafalgar Reeve Alex Phillips, Oakville

Reeve Fred Tilley, Burlington Reeve Irv Ryckman, Mrs. C. A. "Sandy" Best, and Acton Mayor John Gov.

Among the past wardens who were present was Acton Hall of Trafalgar who the next day was celebrating his 50th wedding anniversary. A hearty round of applause was given for the 77-year-old former warden. Also introduced were the warden's four children, three sisters and two of his three brothers: Halton Mayor William Anderson of Oakville, Len Hyde of Georgetown, Syd Chalk of Milton, John Lockhart of Burlington and John Gov. of Acton, neighboring county wardens Bill Wingrove of Wentworth and Wilton Downey of Peel and former wardens who came from Georgetown, Harold Cleave and Stan Allen.

Mayor Hyde extended a welcome to Georgetown.

Introduced by Reeve Phillips, guest speaker Anthony Adamson spoke on "Reflection and Tradition" as he outlined the formation

of townships and counties and their systems of governments. Mr. Adamson pointed out that while some say the county form of government is an unnecessary and expensive, he feels it is most important.

Large cities the planning director noted are now adopting the county principle of government for their great suburbs. "County government to me, he added, has proven to be the most successful of all municipal units."

The county system was born in 1840 while the word township is 1540 years old.

Terminating an impressive 40-Adamson called the ideal of a residential-commercial-industrial built to adhere to the "old-fashioned" out against "out-of-date" legislation and urged his listeners to advocate planning and informed thought.

He is professor of Town Planning at University of Toronto. In his message of thanks to the crowd attending, Warden Sargent

paid tribute to the co-operation of fellow county councillors and the staff and especially clerk Gail Field Brown. He also expressed his appreciation to his wife for her assistance and understanding.

Reviewing the past year, the Warden listed as council's accomplishments the purchase of a site and engaging of architects for the new county building, the beginning of the 92-acre reforestation area at Hornby and the institution of a road study group to forecast future road requirements.

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BASKETBALL plays an important role in the Y.M.C.A. curriculum and Wayne Rogers, second row left to right, Garry Waller, Frank and the Monday night class is crowded with eager youngsters Morton, Jan Riddell and Fred Landry, Back row Harry Heikamp, wishing to take part. Pictured above is the group present on Sid Saitz, Y secretary and instructor, Jim Blunn, John Price and Monday night Front row left to right are Raymond Saitz, Freddie Don Franklin, Barenz, Harry Barenz, Teddy Saitz, Vincent Dunne, Ernie Waller.