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1961 COUNCIL met during their inaugural meeting, Tuesday evening, with all members present. Pictured—front row left to right are clerk-administrator J. McGeachie, reeve J. Hargrave, mayor J. Goy and deputy reeve, H. Hinton. Back row, J. Newton, W. McLeod, L. Doby, G. Barbeau, W. Denny and F. Toth. Rev. A. H. McKenzie and Rev. D. Engel, from the Acton Ministerial Association were present for the dedication service.

The Band Plays on

Started Brothers on Musical Career Resident Has Visit from Trio Monday

No value can be placed on words of appreciation or a kindly "Thank You". This has been the motto of Charles Mason, Willow Street, for many, many years. Monday evening he had his New Year brightened considerably when he received a visit from three brothers, whom he had not seen since they wore short pants and with puffed cheeks, blew their hot breath into the mouthpiece of a band instrument.

Harold, Lorne and Clarence Pfluge, Kitchener men, paid a special visit to Mr. Mason, Monday evening, to recall childhood days in their home town, when Mr. Mason first taught them to play the horn.

Started in 1926
Back in 1926, when the Acton resident took a position with a Kitchener firm to supervise the making of gloves, he found time to teach a group of anxious

youngsters, eager to master the art of horn tooting. It was not long before more youngsters gathered, and after a short time, Mr. Mason formed the "Kitchener Boys and Girls" Band. Among this group were the Pfluge boys.

The Monday visit was described by Mr. Mason as "The greatest thrill of my life." He remarked afterward, "A reward for doing a good deed has more meaning when given in terms of thanks and knowing your efforts are appreciated."

Built Band Up
Mr. Mason remained in Kitchener for five years and during that short space of time built the band up from a mere handful of youths to a sizeable band. He recalls the Pfluge boys especially because of their interest, talent and ambition.

Two of the brothers Harold and Lorne still play in the Kitchener

Band and Lorne is organist and choirman in the United Church there. The other brother Clarence toots a horn in the Waterloo band and all three give Mr. Mason full credit for their musical talent. They are all married and have families with some of the younger ones playing musical instruments.

The Acton musician's interest in youngsters has been a lengthy one and in 1943 started the Acton Boys and Girls Band which three years later placed first at the C.N.E. and Waterloo competition. Today's Acton Citizens band is comprised of many of these youngsters, now grown men.

Mr. Mason himself, holds a musical record hard to defeat and for a number of years was bandmaster of the Acton band and to this day seldom misses a parade or practice and still assists any youngster anxious to master the art of tooting a horn.

"Dean" Begins His 37th Year

This month Richard Harris starts his 37th year as Rockwood correspondent for the Acton Free Press. His clearly typed, well-informed news items arrive each week regularly and can always be counted on to fill an important corner with interesting items.

Mr. Harris is termed the "dean" of correspondents.

He often comes to town to deliver his news items personally and is greeted with affection by staff members.

An O.A.C. graduate he lives alone in Rockwood and is a well known resident. His special hobby is photography and he is very adept. Quite often he brings along a number of his black and white or colored slides for the staff to view and everyone admires the composition and subjects caught by the lens.

Predicts Steady Economic Progress Mayor Urges Close Watch on Dollar

By passing a \$150,000 waterworks system extension by-law at the inaugural meeting of the 1961 Council Tuesday, the year got off to a flying start. The by-law, read twice by the 1960 council, was read a third time by the new council after approval had been received from the Department of Municipal Affairs. The by-law allows the town to enter an agreement with the Ontario Water Resources Commission for the completion of the project.

If, after the engineering work and specifications are prepared and tenders received, the cost amounts to over the \$150,000 ap-

proved, the project will have to be re-submitted to the Department of Municipal Affairs, Mayor Goy pointed out in answer to a question that the project would not affect the 1961 tax rate with the first payment due in 1962. Efforts are being made

to have the project undertaken under the winter works program.

Debt Service Charges
The annual charges for principal and interest on the \$150,000 debenture issue will amount to approximately \$14,700. It is anticipated these costs will be met by increased revenue by way of a water rate increase and through the possible sale of additional water. The by-law read was passed with the unanimous support of all members.

Only other by-law passed by council was the statutory borrowing by-law required to provide funds for operation of the municipality until tax revenue is received. The total amount authorized for 1961 was \$250,000, up \$100,000 from the 1960 figure. The increase was felt necessary when last year's amount was not sufficient and it had been necessary to pass a second borrowing by-law later in the year. Total amount borrowed last year was \$183,000.

Declaration of Office
First item of business on the agenda was the declaration of office by the members, which was administered by clerk J. McGeachie. In the customary first proceedings, members were present from the Acton Ministerial Association, Rev. A. H. McKenzie read a passage from scripture, followed by prayer by Rev. Dwight Engel.

In his inaugural address to members of council, Mayor Goy cautioned members not "to look for or expect anything startling to happen in 1961", but also predicted that 1961 "should be a year of good, steady economic progress" for the town of Acton. With an assessment of over \$57 million and expected revenue of probably \$500,000, he urged a close watch on each dollar spent to be certain the taxpayers get full value. He felt that the strength of any council lies in the members seated at the council table and promised that all information made available.

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ACTON ARENA has been a popular spot this season especially over the holiday period. On Monday afternoon open skating was held and over 170 attended. Waiting for the ice to be cleared off halfway through skating are five pretty young girls. Front row left to right are Charlene James, Laurene Rennick and Dianne Frank. Back row are June and Joyce Rennick.

Mass Christmas Tree Burning Planned for Acton by C. of C.

Thousands of Christmas trees are expected to join up in smoke Thursday evening when the Acton Chamber of Commerce stages a monster bonfire at the dump and distributes doughnuts and coffee to spectators.

This year a new innovation will be introduced as the chamber in conjunction with town council and workmen will hold the bonfire on the east side of the C.N.R. tracks near the dump to mark the 12th night following Christmas.

Everyone is invited to attend and a large quantity of doughnuts and coffee have been ordered for the occasion.

Sharp at 7:30 p.m. a lighted match will be touched to the dried trees and soon crackling and sparkling branches will be reduced to embers.

Appointment of Twp. Officials At Nassagaweya Inaugural

Appointment of officials to various boards, committees and other township posts highlighted the inaugural meeting of Nassagaweya Township council on Monday afternoon.

Reeve John A. Milne, Deputy Reeve John Robertson and councillors Dr. B. D. Young, Charles Thomson and Bill Coulter were sworn into office by clerk Don McMillan and Rev. R. P. E. Jeffares of Lowville and Nassagaweya Anglican Church conducted a devotion.

Reeve Milne was renamed to the Milton-District-Hospital board, Mrs. Pauline Elliott was named township hall caretaker,

clerk Don McMillan was named building inspector and relief officer, Reeve Milne and councillor Thomson were named to the Acton fire area committee, former councillor Archie R. Service was renamed to the Milton fire area committee, and Omar Vansickle was appointed to planning board for three years while Jack Robertson was given a one year planning board term.

All township officials were re-appointed, the clerk was given a \$400 raise and workmen given a five cents an hour raise. Council and employees will be sent to the Good Roads convention in Toronto in mid-February.

Gravel pit licenses were renewed for Cooksville-LaPrairie Brick, Dominion Tar and Chemical and Nellie O'Neill. Accounts totalling \$288.59 and a road superintendent's voucher for \$1,245.08 were approved.

March of Dimes Campaign Opens Rotarians Spark Drive in Acton

For the first time Acton will have a March of Dimes campaign to assist poliomyelitis and the orthopaedically disabled in rehabilitation. The campaign will be sponsored by the Acton Rotary Club and they will be assisted by many ladies of the community.

Heading the Rotary campaign is chairman Art Gordon who will be assisted by several members in lining up canvassers and sparking the drive.

Jim Ledger is recruiting chairman and is responsible for the canvassers and contacts have been made at all churches and several of the ladies from each will be selected to make house calls.

Mrs. E. I. Laver has been chosen as Chief Marching Mother and will head the ladies throughout the campaign, and urges everyone available to assist in this worthwhile cause.

January is March of Dimes Month in more than 200 Ontario

Communities. Committees throughout the Province recruit marching mothers, merchants display coin collectors to finance the work of the Rehabilitation Foundation for 1961.

The Campaign culminates on Monday, January 31 when the Marching Mothers call at every home collecting contributions in the one hour Mothers' March.

"We need volunteer Marching Mothers in Acton" said Mrs. Ledger "and we appeal to all mothers who have this one hour to spare to offer their services to the March of Dimes."

"Rehabilitation of disabled adults becomes more successful every year," said Mrs. Ledger. "Men and women disabled from accidents, disease or inherited causes are taking an active part in many phases of industry and commerce. The placement of disabled workers in jobs has reached

a record level and these handicapped people are proving their productivity in competitive industry."

The Rehabilitation Foundation depends entirely upon voluntary contributions to the March of Dimes to provide medical and training programs for the disabled and to equip them for more useful lives.

"There are many jobs in which physical disability need not be a handicap," continued Mrs. Ledger. "Experience has shown that the majority of disabled people can become gainfully employed."

In order to meet the cost of providing rehabilitation to this Province's disabled adults, for 1961, the March of Dimes hopes to raise \$650,000 from the Mother's March campaign. To raise this amount, the local committee, like the volunteer committees in the other centres, need more volunteer

200 Teen-agers Enjoy Dancing

Over 200 teen-agers celebrated New Year's early Friday evening when they danced to the music of two orchestras and enjoyed merrymaking with noise makers and novelties during the Lions Club Teen Town dance in the Legion auditorium.

The large crowd in attendance donned paper hats, twirled noise-makers and broke balloons as they enjoyed one of the high lights of the dancing season.

Music was supplied by the "Premiers" and the "Consults" and both orchestras kept the dancers going steadily.

Chaperones for the event were chairman Syd Lamb and Jack Doherty, Fred Briggs and Jack Bundell, all members of the Lions Club.

Dancers are looking forward to tomorrow (Friday) evening when the "Dancers" will supply the music for another dance.

OK Window Coating During Final Meeting

During a special meeting of the Acton district high school board, Thursday, December 29, trustees inspected the newly tinted windows in the gymnasium and found the job highly satisfactory.

During the meeting, retiring chairman J. Creighton and trustee M. M. Coles were presented with pen and pencil sets. Each also received a scroll for their valued service to the board.

Accounts amounting to \$7,261.94 were approved for payment before adjournment at 9 p.m.

Superintendent persons had better watch out next week. It's Friday the 13th.

Re-Appoint M. C. Smith Chairman During Public School Board Meet

Trustee M. C. Smith was re-appointed chairman of the public school board for another term during the inaugural meeting Tuesday evening in the Robert Little school.

Following the installation of the chairman the following committees were appointed for the year: Finance chairman T. Watson and C. W. Bradley, property chairman E. T. Marks and D. Manning and supplies—W. Benson.

Engage Caretakers
During the brief meeting the board re-engaged caretaker J. D. Price at a salary of \$3,600. C. M. Coll, \$3,600 and R. Anderson as assistant caretaker at \$3,000. George Spence-Lee was re-engaged as attendance officer at a salary of \$100 per year. W. Middleton was re-hired as school treasurer for another term.

Approval was given principal W. D. Elmer Smith and principal G. W. McKenzie to purchase library books to the amount of \$200 each for their schools.

The secretary informed the board they would wind up the year with a comfortable surplus to start the new year off.

School Spottless
Principal Smith told the board he was quite pleased with the condition of the school following the Christmas holidays and commended the caretaker for his excellent work during the children's absence. Both principals reported new pupils had started studies following the holidays.

Principal McKenzie reported one of the teachers on the sick list following an operation the last day of school and noted a supply teacher was handling the

class quite efficiently.

Following a request from Rev. D. Engel to purchase unused blackboards for the United church Sunday school rooms, board members agreed that blackboards discarded following the fire would be sold to anyone at \$5.00 each.

Members were informed by letter that insurance commissions had been divided among the agents in town according to agreement. A letter was received from the secretary of the local Cancer Society secretary thanking the board for the use of the auditorium for their general campaign meeting.

Accounts totalling \$86.96 were approved for payment and the regular meeting dates were set for the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

H. Helwig Honored by Workers Prior to Retiring from C.N.R.

Celebrating his 65th birthday today (Thursday) Herb Helwig has a little more to celebrate than most people having a birthday. He is officially retiring from the Canadian National Railway as freight shed operator.

He will miss the shunting of freight cars as the diesel engines back into the siding, just as he missed the hissing of the steam locomotive following black and white smoke prior to the age of the diesel.

Has Hobby
"Herbie" as he is better known to his fellow workers and train crews, will not be the however, he plans a full time program, experimenting in Botanical Research. Sounds crazy? Not in the least. Already he is producing a special variety of potatoes and lettuce and has crossed several plants and come up with beautiful tubers. His special garden has produced two crops. His garden and flowers are his hobby, which he started over 30 years ago and has steadily ex-

panded since. If peculiar objects are seen hanging from puny looking saplings in his yard, don't become alarmed, because in short time the saplings will develop into strong robust trees, thanks to Herbs special mixtures.

Receives Gift
Thursday evening of last week the retiring freight agent was honored by his fellow workers and representatives from various companies and he was presented with a large travelling bag.

Speeches were at a minimum during the gathering but congratulations were plentiful as Mr. Helwig was cheered by those present and admired for a good job well done. He also received a telegram from the local chairman of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers on behalf of all members.

Starting at the age of 20, June 20, 1916, the then young lad was living in Neustadt and lived close by the railroad line, running north to Hanover. From Neustadt he went to Wingham as freight clerk in 1922 and came

to Acton March 1, 1936.

During his 45 years of service Herb has seen many changes take place in railroading and he called the change from the G.I.R. to C.N.R. and from steam to diesel as well as increased business on the lines.

Thinking has affected the freight business considerably, but now with Piggy Back freights running transports direct from one point to another, considerable work has been cut down in larger freight offices.

This does not apply however in Acton and the retiring agent noted a noticeable increase in business in Acton since he first came here.

During his farewell party Friday, Herb praised his associates for their co-operation and assistance given him during his 24 years in Acton.

Memories of his years with the railroad will be recalled every time a freight engine shunts box-cars in the siding because Mr. Helwig lives only a stone's throw away from the station.

11 Fatalities, 255 Accidents In North Halton

Two hundred and fifty-five accidents were investigated during 1960 by the North Halton Provincial Police detachment; eight of them were fatal resulting in 11 fatalities. Fifteen were injured in mishaps on North Halton roads.

Accidents gradually decreased from 32 in January to 13 in June. A sudden drop occurred in March when only 11 accidents were recorded. From the summertime low they increased quickly to 28 in December. The heaviest number of fatalities was recorded in May when three people were involved in fatal accidents.

O.P.P. Accident Report

Month	Accid.	Dead	Inj.
January	32	2	6
February	20	1	2
March	11	1	2
April	16	1	6
May	27	3	6
June	13	1	5
July	18	1	4
August	22	2	6
September	22	1	2
October	20	1	9
November	27	2	6
December	28	1	9
1960 Totals	255	11	59



HERB HELWIG (left) freight shed operator retired officially today (Thursday) and last week a number of his fellow workers and friends gathered at the station to present him with a gift and bid him farewell. The group present are pictured above in the waiting room at the station where the presentation was held. Mr. Helwig received a large travelling bag. He is an amateur gardener and delves into botanical research which he intends to do plenty of.