

# The Acton Free Press.

Eighty-Sixth Year, No. 41.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, APRIL 6th, 1961

Authorized as Second Class Mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa.

Eight Pages—Seven Cents.

## Halton Assessment Rises 8.55% Greatest in Province -- Assessor

The Assessment Committee of Halton recommend county adoption of the \$220,263,666 County Assessor's 1961 equalization report at a committee meeting held on Tuesday. County Assessor Ford Rogers described his total as the greatest in the province. The total is an 8.55 per cent or \$17,357,979 increase over the 1960 actual assessment. A breakdown of the total shows each municipality's equalization figure as follows: Acton, \$5,559,873, 2.52 per cent of the total; Burlington \$87,533,842, 39.74 per cent; Georgetown \$14,209,525, 6.45 per cent; Milton \$6,982,537, 3.17 per cent; Oakville \$25,397,677, 11.53 per cent; Esquesing \$6,677,666, 3.03 per cent; Nassagaweya \$2,270,070, 1.03 per cent; Trafalgar \$71,644,512, 32.52 per cent.

Referring to the progressive adoption of the D.M.A. manual plan of assessment, County Assessor P. Rogers noted "in a summary of the data received it has been revealed that the reassessment will generally result in a greater increase on commercial type property than on agricultural, residential or industrial." The County Assessor noted that Acton, Georgetown and Milton per cent of increase in commercial values through reassessment will show considerable variation in those municipalities, but would finally increase the county total by a very low per cent. "Re-assessment is continuing and much more near to completion in some municipalities than in others. The estimated final increase in assessment for Acton, Georgetown, Milton, Esquesing and Nassagaweya would not change the apportionment of any municipality more than a fraction of one per cent," Mr. Rogers explained.

The Burlington and Acton assessors described the report as excellent and commended Mr. Esquesing for his work. Oakville assessor Percy Spurgeon said his municipality has been using the government D.M.A. manual and felt that this was the reason for the close equality among the municipalities. Milton Reeve Mrs. Mary Pettit said she favored the use of the manual.

Deputy Reeve Wilfrid Bird of Esquesing commended the county for going ahead with the use of the manual, even though it has not been fully adopted across Ontario. He said that it appeared the assessment branch of the Ontario government seems to be in favor of full adoption of the manual. He also pointed out the increasing need for larger offices for assessment officials and recommended that sufficient room be set aside in the new county building for assessment purposes.

Joseph Gibbons, Georgetown assessor informed the meeting that his municipality was 10 per cent over the D.M.A. manual's figure. He said that Georgetown would lose a million and a half of assessment if the manual was adopted. Mr. Gibbons said that they would continue with the same assessment book they had been using, feeling that there was a need for something more definite in the department manual. He congratulated Mr. Rogers on his report but declined to endorse its recommendation until Georgetown town council had studied it.

### Board Hears Decision On Zoning Variations

Acton Planning Board held their regular meeting Tuesday evening. The secretary reported to the board the results of the Committee of Adjustment meeting last Thursday. The board decided not to oppose the committee's decision. The committee had agreed to minor variations on the old Storey Grove property and Block A on Queen Street East.

The 'C3 zoning of Church Street West was discussed but no changes were contemplated. The secretary requested an interpretation of the word "attached" as it appears in the zoning by-law. The board instructed the secretary of their interpretation.

Notice was received of a Regional Planning Conference in Toronto in May. Delegates were authorized to attend.

C. K. BROWNE Acton merchant was honored by Queen City Masonic Lodge Wednesday night when he was presented with a life membership. Able to travel by car he was driven by W. Middleton and accompanied by E. E. Barr. Mr. Browne has been a member with Queen City Lodge for over 40 years. He celebrated his 90th birthday last June 4.

### Township Council Okays \$120,000 Limehouse School

Plans for a new \$120,000 consolidated public school in the Limehouse area are currently being formed by the School Board of Esquesing, Township School Area 1 and the Township Council. It was learned this week. The plans are subject to the approval of the Department of Education and the Ontario Municipal Board. No site has yet been suggested, but board members are believed to be meeting architects today to decide on a site. Pupils from Bannockburn (enrollment 45), Blue Mountain (65) and Limehouse (80) are expected to attend the new school. The council has approved including School Sections 9, 1, 2 and AE into the School Area 1 supervision.

### Police Check Youngsters Using Firearms in Town

Constable Ron Rupert of the Acton O.P.P. Detachment this week ordered confiscation of firearms from two youngsters, a bayonet and scabbard from a third and a fourth injured by a bullet. Wednesday afternoon two youngsters 14 and 15 were caught with a 12 gauge shotgun and .22 rifle and ammunition near the H. K. Porter plant. Another 13-year-old was caught at the town dump with a bayonet and in all cases the weapons were taken away and parents notified.

On Tuesday afternoon another youngster was treated by Dr. D. A. Garrett for a cut to the face which required three stitches to close. He had also lost a tooth. Constable Rupert believes the accident happened after children had tossed 22 rifle bullets into a fire and one exploded, striking the youngster.

### Struck by Truck Woman Injured

Police investigated an accident Tuesday afternoon when a Churchill Road S. resident Mrs. R. Marming was struck on the left arm by a passing truck, while walking on the shoulder of the road on Longfield Road. She informed police constable Bruce Kressler the truck struck her left arm as the vehicle passed her and the injury has been quite painful. It is believed the truck is owned by Doan Construction company who are engaged by the Bell Telephone Company to install underground services in town.

### Incorporation Of Rockwood To be Sought

Motion dealt with at the March meeting of the trustees of the police village of Rockwood embraced the matter of enlarging the fire hall to accommodate an additional truck; that the township council place Rockwood on Daylight Saving Time at a time coincident with Wellington County; that the secretaries obtain prices on street lights as soon as available.

A discussion concerning the garbage dump resulted in the request that the secretary write the city of Guelph and any other source of information for better ways of looking after a land filled dump.

Notice of motion was given as follows: "I hereby give notice to the trustees of the police village of Rockwood that I will at the next regular meeting of said trustees introduce a motion to incorporate this community as a village. Signed Charles F. O'Brien." Motion passed that accounts be paid, for the village, \$731.48, for hydro, \$1,820.74.

### Board Reviews December Results Adopts Student Insurance Policy

Acton District High School Board Monday evening adopted a student contributory medical policy for the balance of the term at the rate of 50 cents per student. This action followed recent criticism from parents of a student injured during a basketball game at the school. Following the accident the secretary wrote the Municipal World for advice regarding the board's responsibilities and learned the board was not negligent providing the sports supervisor had not shown any negligence during the class.

Board members scanned results of the Christmas examinations on prepared forms devised by chairman E. S. Force. Results of the Easter examinations will be entered on the same sheets and reviewed by the board members at their next meeting.

During the study of the December examinations it was noted that in grade nine out of 1,171 exams written, students received 888 passes; in grade 10 students wrote 767 papers and received 533 passes; grade 11 students tallied 244 passes out of 333 exams tried; 243 exams were tried by grade 12 students and 182 papers passed while in grade 13 students scored 114 passes out of 170 examinations tried.

Chairman Force termed the December report as "pretty good" and contradictory to street corner talk about the exams. The board received a letter of appreciation from the night school executive thanking the members for the use of the auditorium during their display night and cooperation during the evening classes.

Members were advised that workmen would be at the school as soon as the summer term ended to repair the bulge in the east wall. They also learned the painters would be ready to start work and have the job completed by July 15.

General accounts totalling \$4,764.64 and teachers' salaries amounting to \$5,310.00 were approved for payment.

### Forged Cheques

Merchants have been warned this week about accepting cheques unless they are positive of the person's identification. Two weeks ago two forged cheques were accepted in town and Wednesday afternoon a third was turned over to police.

### Heavy Snowfall

Take a given quantity of meat, add a few onions, bread, butter, cookies and milk, season with a heavy snowfall, add 10 Boy Scouts equipped with sleeping bags, tents and heavy clothing, stir for three days, and you come up with a weekend camping trip.

Easter weekend, two scouts and eight patrol leaders and second from Acton Boy Scout Troop gathered at the Scout Hall Friday evening, checked packs, scanned maps and headed out on the first lap of their journey in quest of their Golden Arrow badge.

Comprising patrol leaders and second, the group is called the Golden Arrow Patrol and is an instructional group. Equipped with flashlights, rubber boots, tiring pants and other cooking utensils, the eight scouts, accompanied by their leaders, headed out after dark for a designated spot approximately five miles north of Acton.

Scoutmaster Bruce Williamson who plotted the trip had marked his country home on the map and after several stops and starts to consult the map and check at their destination.

Scoutmaster Williamson and his assistant Neil Miller went along with every move the young scouts made and offered no advice whatsoever if the given path was deviated from. The scouts were on their own. It was part of their training.

(Continued on Page Three)

## Acton Woman Dies Suddenly Halton's First '61 Fatality

Mrs. M. K. Burgmueller, 83 Mill Street, was killed instantly Thursday evening, March 30, when her small Volkswagen went out of control and crashed into a tree on No. 7 highway south of Blue Springs Nursery.

Constable William Bennett of the North Halton O.P.P. Detachment investigated and reported the Burgmueller vehicle was attempting to pass a tractor-trailer truck and went out of control after the driver apparently changed her mind and attempted to pull in behind the truck again.

Coroner Dr. G. E. Sver of Milton pronounced the woman dead and ordered an autopsy. An inquest has been scheduled by the coroner but no date has been set. This was the first fatal accident in North Halton this year, police reported. She had been working recently as a bookkeeper in Guelph and was formerly a hairdresser in Acton. Born in Austria, she was the daughter of Mrs. Marie and the late Karl Arnegger of Austria. She came to this country in 1954 and has resided in Acton most of the time since.

## \$1,500 Cancer Society Objective Canvass Town Monday, Tuesday

The \$1,500 campaign of the Acton Branch of the Canadian Cancer Society begins on Saturday with the Trend of the Town tea in the Legion Hall. Then on Monday and Tuesday teams will canvass the town to raise the local objective of \$1,500 as its part in the world struggle against cancer. Halton county's quota is \$6,000; the provincial objective \$1,500,000 and the national objective \$3,287,000 — more money than ever before sought in this country.

Local chairman Ray Arbie explains the reason for seeking more money is because of the increase in tempo of research, public education and welfare services sponsored by the Society. For the Trend of the Town Tea, many town talks have offered donations of food and their services to make this affair "the success of the season". Local merchants will be displaying fashions and all models have cheerfully volunteered their time. Dancing students of two different groups will display their talents.

There will be door prizes and displays of materials and information regarding the Cancer Society and its work. Proceeds from the tea will be added to the campaign funds to help the local branch reach its objective. Mrs. Rae West is supervising the tea. Under the direction of the local branch campaign chairman Mrs. Phyllis Angell, the organizations participating and their team captains will be canvassing next Monday and Tuesday evenings from 8.30 to 8 p.m. The Christian Reformed Church team is under Mrs. Bowman; Lions club under Bert Halladay; Catholic Women's League, Mrs. Fowler; I.O.O.F., Mrs. J. Jacques; Legion Ladies Auxiliary, Mrs. Ron Smith; Women's Institutes, Mrs. Garnet Rose; St. Alban's Ladies' Guild, Mrs. Winnifred Kerr, Mrs. Roach and Mrs. Stapleton will also be organizing teams. Cancer comes too close to home to be ignored and research is the key to the cancer problem. Contributions will help to unlock the door. Canvassers will call next week, or anyone who is out may contact the treasurer of the local unit, Bill McKay, manager of the Bank of Montreal, or Hilton Elliott, local secretary, at Dills Stationery. Many organizations and individuals will be assisting in the canvass. Recently several scientific discoveries have been made that offer great hope of soon finding a cure or a control of cancer. But much more research is necessary in making it possible. Education can magnify the hope and minimize the fear. The Acton branch is prepared to help in many ways. A dressing station is in the process of being set up in the Dills Printing plant and it will be under the supervision of Mrs. Edgar Lidka. It will be stocked with all the necessary items for the care, comfort and assistance of anyone suspecting cancer, having it, or recovering from it.



HUNGRY SCOUTS peer into the campfire as chow boils away in the stewing kettle and frying pan, during the patrol leaders' weekend outing. While Jim Ware handles the frying pan and Bill Cook stirs the stew the scouts, left to right, waiting anxiously are Menno Stoffels, George Ware, Max Hagggett, Mike Mattocks, Roger Ladouceur and leaders Neil Miller and Bruce Williamson.



FULL PACK was the order of the day when patrol leaders from the Acton scouts headed out for a weekend camping trip on Friday evening. Pictured above front row left to right are Bill Cook, Jim Ware, David Ryder and Menno Stoffels. Back row left to right, are Roger Ladouceur, George Ware, Scouter Bruce Williamson, Mike Mattocks, Scouter Neil Miller and Max Hagggett. The scouts trooped to a designated spot on their maps and camped for the weekend in order to pass their Golden Arrow course as leaders.