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Citizen of the Year Honor Complete Surprise For Ajax Manager, Sportsman, Ex-Councillor

Bill Coon was taken completely by surprise when his name was revealed as Acton's Citizen of the Year at the Chamber of Commerce Civic Night dinner in St. Alban's parish hall Thursday of last week. A look of disbelief on his face was followed by a broad smile as the 150 present broke out into spontaneous, enthusiastic and lengthy applause.

Former postmaster Frank Terry, a charter member of the Chamber of Commerce, made the announcement and outlined Mr. Coon's varied contributions to the town.

"I'm so stunned I can't say anything!" he exclaimed first. Then, recovering his breath, he said, "I appreciate this and will endeavour to continue my support of Acton's interests. I have accepted an engraved plaque as the fourth Citizen of the Year. (Others were G. A. Dills, Amos Mason and Dr. W. G. C. Kenney)."

Mr. Coon is general manager of Ajax Engineering and Marley of Canada, Acton plant.

Special honors, too, went to the fire department when Bill Benson read, "While the Chamber is all times deeply appreciative of the time and energy given unselfishly for the betterment of our community by many organizations in our town, most of which are represented here this evening."

we have singled out for recognition this evening our Fire Department, which, under the able leadership of Chief Jack Newton, has served our community well during the past year.

Bill Coon's Record of Service

Announcing the choice of Acton's Citizen of the Year last Thursday at the Chamber of Commerce dinner, Frank Terry said:

"There are many factors in choosing a Citizen of the Year but a record of community service is the dominant feature. This year's honor goes to a man who, since his arrival in Acton, has accumulated an enviable record of community service. The kind of community service that adds strength and encourages community betterment—the kind of community service that extends to every facet of activity from youth work to adult recreation."

"This year's honor, the highest bestowed by the citizens of Acton, goes to Bill Coon."

Bill was born in St. Catharines where he obtained his early education. At 17 he was learning his trade in Toronto with the Ontario Wind Engine and Pump Co. which was later taken over by Ajax Engineering.

"Bill arrived in Acton with the Ajax firm in 1935. In the municipal field of service he served on Acton Council and served for a time as deputy reeve representing Acton at County Council."

"His activities have been varied and his contribution, through these varied activities, has benefited the town."

"Bill was an active participant in the construction of the scout hall serving not only on the committee but as a driving force in recruiting and utilizing the volunteer labor that made the building possible."

Active in Church
"When his church undertook a construction project he was a

major contributor to the actual construction that created the Lutton Memorial Hall.

"The field of recreation has also felt the contribution of Bill Coon. He was a member of the executive that operated an Intermediate hockey team in town while Acton was entered in O.H.A. competition and he was a strong supporter of the Minor Sports program that has been developed. His interest no doubt stemmed from an early interest and participation in baseball."

Busy Plant
"In his chosen trade and vocation, this year's citizen of the year has also amassed a commendable record. He is now general manager of Ajax Engineering and Marley of Canada, Acton plant. During the war years the factory under Bill's direction constructed Canada's largest water cooler at Port Robertson and other towers from the local plant are located in Canada and the United States. Television towers are included in the products that have been produced under Bill's supervision."

"One of the family of 14 Bill is the proud father of two boys who grew up and received their education here. Bob is in Burks Falls and Bill is located in Guelph. Both of them have children and that makes Bill a grandfather, too."

"Community service is one of those things that goes on forever once started. Bill is still active as a member of the Acton District High School Board. His association with that group goes back to the preceding North Halton High School District Board where he was a keen supporter of Acton's interests."

"We would like to specially mention fireman Hilliard Price (better known to us as 'Did' Price) who, as a volunteer firefighter, at considerable risk to his own person, brought to safety one of our well-known local men, Coon Varey, trapped in a recent fire at the Station Hotel."

"To him, to Fire Chief Newton and to all the Acton Firefighters, a special thanks from the Chamber on behalf of all the citizens of Acton."

"We feel also, in connection with the recent fire at the Station Hotel, that we could not miss Vince Heveran, who sustained

severe burns during his rescue efforts at the time of the fire."

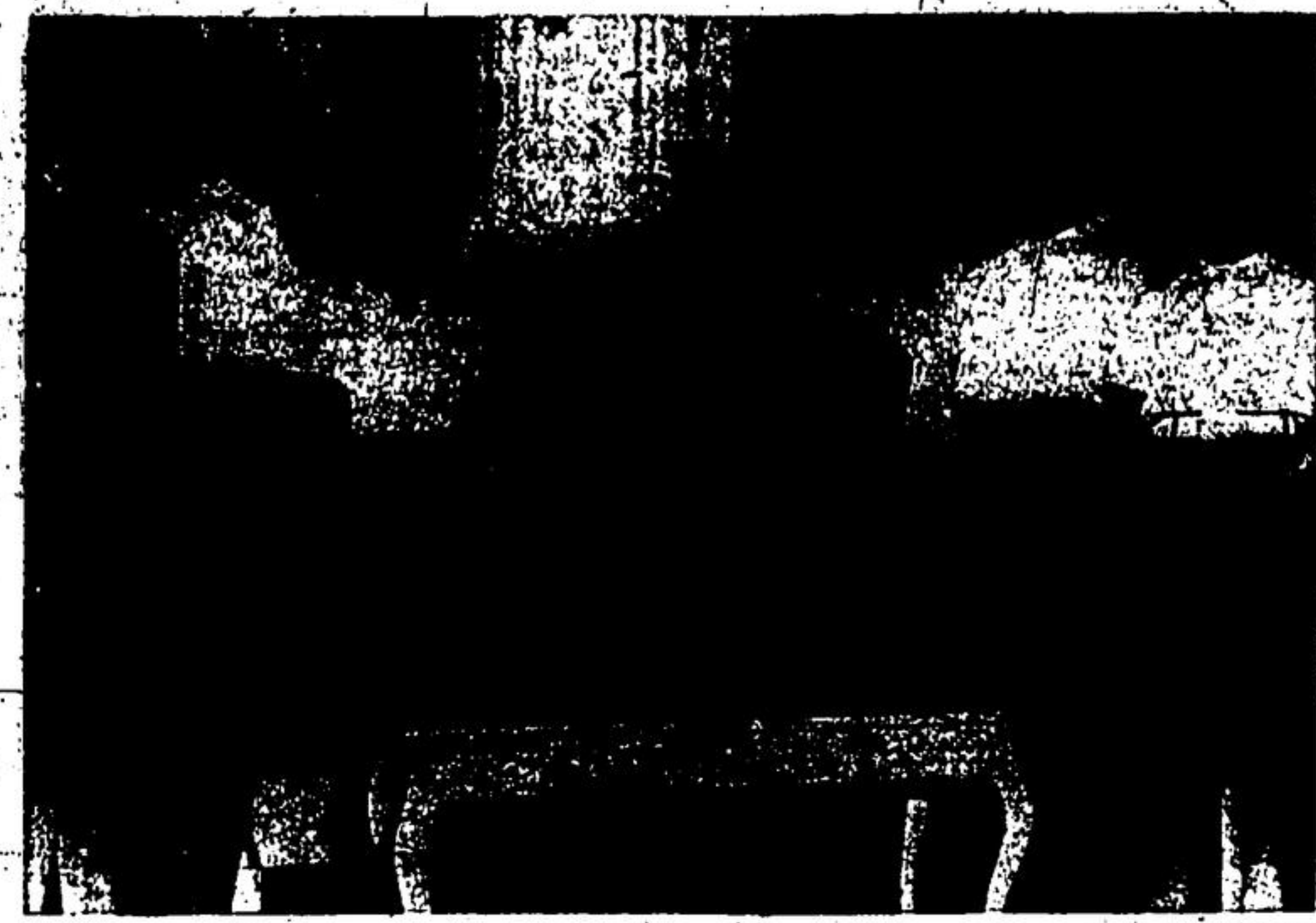
Letter From Premier
Secretary Norm Brads read a letter from Premier Leslie Frost, expressing best wishes in Chamber of Commerce week.

President Ted Tyler Sr. welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Terry from Owen Sound. Mr. Terry referred to his "admiration and deep respect for the Citizen of the Year".

Glen White announced the next meeting—an agricultural meeting when Earl Whitelock will be guest speaker.

New members introduced were

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ROBERT LITTLE SCHOOL triple duet takes time out for a last minute practice session before their appearance at the Music Festival Wednesday morning in Acton. Pictured above left to right are Yvonne Yaitman, Inneke Smeek, Lindi Lawson, Doug Copeland, assisting music supervisor Glenn Banks, Ruth Everdell, Marilyn Cripps and Rita Duiker. More pictures and a complete coverage of the festivals Wednesday, Thursday and Friday will appear in next week's issue of the Free Press.

Knox Club Fashion Show Stars Sport, Sunday Wear

Last evening (Wednesday) Knox Sunday school room was filled for another in the series of popular fashion shows which have all drawn crowds this spring. This one was sponsored by the Heather Club of Knox and clothes were from the Cameo Shoppe.

Against a backdrop of bouquets studded with gay paper flowers, models—all members or their daughters—walked to melodies played by Mrs. Mel McCullough. Commentator was Mrs. Charles Kirkness.

Bouquets Presented
At the end of the display president Mrs. Hugh O'Rourke thanked the store and guests. There were bouquets of roses from Ken Mann, owner of the Cameo Shoppe, for Mrs. Kirkness and Mrs. McCullough. Mrs. Alex Mann, store manager, was given a large bouquet of carnations and gladioli from the club.

Tea and fruit bread were served in the basement, convened by Mrs. Cam Leishman.

Assisting models was Mrs. J. A. Van Fleet, one of the clerks.

Show Highlights
Each model appeared several times. Highlights of the show:

Judy Abram, her auburn hair almost waist-length, in a sea green bathing suit with jacket;

Mrs. Ian Johnson in a very new gold sports coat of foam rubber;

Mrs. Stan Norton in a full-swinging, beige duster over a two-piece brown suit;

Miss Helen Hopkins in a tery-cloth playsuit printed with over-size pink and red flowers;

Mrs. Harold Guest in a mauve suit with crisp black accessories;

Miss Sandra McLennan in a white terry-cloth beach robe over a sophisticated white bathing suit with black lace;

Mrs. Jim Inglis in a gayly patterned all-weather coat with a big buttoned collar;

Miss Barbara Norton in a bright coral cotton weave suit;

Mrs. Greenville McLennan in "suburban" purple slim jims with matching striped top;

Miss Sandi Davidson in a magenta and white plaid walking suit with mauve accessories;

Mrs. Alex Waldie in a crisp white duster over a pink lining sheath;

Miss Joanne McKenzie in a smartly back-fastened suit dress of muted checks;

Mrs. Mick Holmes—"our lady in pink"—with a soft imitation fur over a turquoise knit sheath;

Mrs. Audrey Grischow in a flowered green-brown sheer with self-flower;

Miss Katherine Kirkness in a brightly-colored pantino set, and later a flowered duster over matching pyjamas.

Hats were also from the Cameo Shoppe.

Divide Parish Acton Separate

On May 1 a new parish will be established including Erin and Rockwood Anglican churches. The parish of Acton will just include the Church of St. Alban the Martyr with its own full-time rector.

The change was necessitated by the growing church population of St. Alban's. The official announcement was made in a letter received from the Bishop, the Right Reverend W. E. Baginall. The new rector of Rockwood and Erin churches will be the Rev. Allan Cook of St. Lambert, Quebec. The Rev. H. B. Stokree remains rector at Acton only.

Acton and Rockwood churches have been in the same parish since their inception.

Fishing Contest

The annual fishing contest sponsored by the Acton Free Press will not be held this year. In past years Acton merchants participating in the contest have generously given expensive prizes and due to the forthcoming canvass for the Community Centre, The Free Press is dropping the contest for this year. We will still welcome news of any big catches, however.

"Chain of Warnings"

Cheque, Change Artists, Beware Police Launch Alerting System

Launching a county-wide crack-down on short change artists, bad cheque passers, and shop-lifters, the police departments throughout Halton County will soon inaugurate a system to help business firms alert other stores and offices when these thieves hit a district.

In future when a business firm is approached by these individuals, a call to the local police will touch off a "chain of telephone warnings" and within 15 minutes, every business firm in this town could be alerted to watch out for the culprits. Meanwhile, police will be on their way to round up the artists who prey on businessmen.

Incorporate System
Corporal Charles Wilkinson of North Halton O.P.R. and Chief Ray Andrews of Milton Police Department, the two men who

launched the idea and then incorporated the system with other Halton police forces, explain their idea this way:

The police will decide that the reported breach of law is sufficient businessman, then they will call a designated "starter" who is the first businessman on the list, to describe the type of offence and describe the suspects. This "starter" then telephones two other businessmen on his list, who in turn each call two more businessmen. This carries on until all the businesses have been notified, and the last place on the list reports back to the Police Department that the message has been received.

Same Two Each Time
The businessman has a permanent list and will be expected to call the same two persons each time. Police are asking mer-

chants to post the lists beside the telephone.

The system not only serves the individual municipality, but the whole of the county. The local police chief could place one call to Georgetown police for instance, and in 15 or 20 minutes, every business firm in that town would be alerted. Georgetown would then be obligated to pass the call on to police in other municipalities, and so on, until the whole county is notified.

Through co-operation of the various police forces linking the county lists of businesses and telephones are to be prepared and distributed so that all businessmen on one telephone exchange will be notified through the "chain" calls originating in their own exchange area.

Thus Acton calls would cover commercial firms in Acton and

Ahead One Hour

In order not to be late for church this Sunday, don't forget to advance your clock one hour before retiring for bed Saturday evening.

Daylight Saving time begins at 12:01 a.m. Sunday morning and remains in effect until 2 a.m. October 29.

Three Weekend Fires Keep Firemen on Run

Three fires over the weekend kept firemen busy. The first was a fire in a house on the hop with two grass fires Sunday afternoon and a fire caused by overheated stove pipes Monday morning.

Sunday afternoon firemen raced to the country home of Frank Rozee, Crewsons Corners, where a grass fire was burning out of control, spreading toward the railway tracks and buildings.

Firemen used the booster lines and brooms to extinguish the blaze.

Shortly after returning to the hall another grass fire broke out in the bush back of Tidy Avenue. Once again firemen used brooms and booster lines to make short work of the fire.

Monday morning overheated stove pipes at the home of Stewart Sinclair, Willow Street, filled the house with smoke and alarmed the residents. When firemen arrived they turned on the smoke ejector to clear the house, and used a small quantity of water to make certain the blaze was completely extinguished.

Condition Improved

During the past week, Elgie (Coon) Varey has had his right arm amputated and various burns treated following hospitalization in Guelph after he received critical burns in the Station Hotel fire recently.

A letter from the Guelph General Hospital at Guelph today (Thursday) stated he is showing continued improvement this week.

Census, Assessing Keep Officials Busy

Census taking and assessing will keep the assessing department busy for a number of weeks. Assistant assessor Cy Perkins is this week taking census and handing out dog tags.

Mr. Perkins leaves a dog tag at home where owners have a pet and they can either pay at the time or settle at the town office. The purpose of the census taking is to compile the voters' list and make a population count.

Assessor John Ladouceur continues to view properties and grade houses for the assessment roll. The present work will take the two men possibly a month.

Palms, Pineapples, Leis For 400 at H.S. Dance

Over 400 guests at the annual high school dance walked through a bamboo entranceway hung with shrunken heads, were greeted by grass-skirted maidens offering leis, sifted through doorway with floor-length fringe of straws and entered the "South Pacific."

Dressed as Bloody Mary from "South Pacific" teacher Mrs. Rogers showed guests to their tables. The gymnasium was highlighted by the mountain Bali High and ringed with coconut and banana palms.

In the corridor coconut, pineapple and pineapple punch were served, climaxed by sandwiches, cake and coffee later.

The student council arranged the dance with staff adviser Mrs. J. Galloway. Phil Caddick and students made the scenery in the shop and student Allan Gay painted it. Clarence Roggvaldson and Ross Swackhamer did the lighting.

In the receiving line were principal Ted Hansen and Mrs. Hansen, high school board member the Rev. Dwight Engel and Mrs. En-

gel; assistant principal Mrs. Reed, Barry Kirkness of the student council and his sister, Miss Betty Kirkness.

Taking tickets were Janet Roggvaldson, Caroline Hoey and Joan Cook; giving out leis were Judy O'Rourke and Annette Hay; the guest book was made by Helen Varey and Susan Wilson; Roy Dunk was in charge of it.

Don Singular and his orchestra played. Diane Rohr, sister-in-law of staff member Wm. Coates, sang a medley of songs from "South Pacific" accompanied by Glenn Banks.

Jean and Mary Moffat headed the refreshment committee assisted by grade nine girls and Friendly Circle members. The grade nine girls made sandwiches at home and brought them.

Barry Kirkness acted as master of ceremonies. An elimination dance was won by former student Pete Hurst, now in navy, and his partner.

On the dance committee were Janice Gardner, Mary Beth Elliott, Susan Wilson, Jean Moffat, Brian Otterbein and Andrew Tarrant.

Nearly 120 Fathers and Sons Enjoy Fellowship, Hear Department of Lands and Forests Officer

Approximately 120 Dads and Lads attended the annual Father and Son banquet sponsored by the Acton Y's Men's Club last night (Wednesday), and enjoyed an evening of fellowship, saw films and heard guest speaker Alec McIntyre from the Department of Lands and Forests.

Past president Earl Masales acted as toastmaster and proposed a toast to the Queen prior to grace by the Rev. A. H. McKenzie. Following a turkey dinner with all the trimmings served by the Y Ladies' Auxiliary, everyone joined in a singing led by District Governor Oscar Thompson of the Galt club.

Mayor's Greetings
Mayor John H. Guy brought greetings from council and praised the Y's Men for their interest in sponsoring the annual banquet. He outlined plans for the proposed Community Centre building and urged the fathers to play their part in making this possible for the benefit of their families.

Thrills and spills were prominent as fathers and sons saw a film on the soap box derby staged at Galt last summer.

A toast to the sons was given by Don Ryder and replied to by his son David after which guest speaker was introduced by Y's Men's president Bill Wilson.

Guest Speaker
Mr. McIntyre outlined the basic organization of the Department and gave an interesting review of accomplishments of the officers.

He told his interested audience that six officers would be in the area by Monday and remain for a number of weeks keeping a sharp eye on reforestation and other interests of the Department. He stressed the importance of keeping streams stocked with fish and maintaining reforestation to protect businessmen who depend on the summer trade.

Appreciation to the speaker and ladies was given by Y's Man

Walter Dubois who presented him with a gift on behalf of the club.

Head table guests introduced by Y's Man W. D. Elmer Smith included: Rev. A. H. McKenzie and his son Allan; Mayor John H. Guy and his son John; past president and chairman for the evening Earl Masales and his son Peter; Mr. McIntyre; Mr. Thompson and his son for the night Bruce Spagaskie; Walter Morton and Clyde Porter from the Galt club. Also present to join the many fathers and sons were Don Israel and Hal Hansen of the Pan Politae Club in Kitchener.



POPULAR FASHIONS were modelled last evening (Wednesday) when Knox church Sunday school room was filled to capacity. Sponsored by the Heather Club of the church, the clothes for the show were from the Cameo Shoppe. While attractive models displayed the latest designs, Mrs. Charles Kirkness acted as commentator and Mrs. Mel McCullough played soft music on the piano. At the end of the display Ken Mann, owner of the store, presented bouquets of roses to Mrs. Kirkness and Mrs. McCullough. Pictured above are some of the fashioning and the models with store owner Ken Mann.