

# The Acton Free Press.

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## Gap Closing on Centre Objective Council, Group Discuss Project

### Schedule Ratepayers' Meet After Petition Presentation

A meeting of ratepayers who signed a petition requesting rezoning of their property on Guelph St. West is to be held June 15. The planning board at their Tuesday evening meeting decided it would be best to meet with the ratepayers before a recommendation amending the zoning by-law is presented to council.

The rezoning from R2 residential to C1 commercial, to permit the operation of a hairdressing business was requested by Mrs. Margaret Lambert and was supported by a signed petition of the ratepayers in the area. C. F. Leatherland presented the petition, on behalf of Mrs. Lambert, as well as a certificate from the assessed owners.

P. Alan Deacon, planning consultant pointed out that any change in zoning submitted to the Ontario Municipal Board would have to be "supported by a demonstration of need for rezoning." "Can we show this need?"

Mr. Leatherland replied that he could produce affidavits from people who could not secure C1 land in Acton and had located in other towns.

Chairman R. H. Elliott observed, "This area is now residential. To change it to C1 would make all the homes non-conforming uses and depreciate the value of the property." Mr. Deacon added that it would not be permissible to build garages or add to houses.

The board adjourned to inspect the area. Upon their return chairman Elliott advised the delegation, "We will take this petition into consideration and all, or in part, work out a scheme to the best advantage. We will give it serious consideration and come up with something."

Mr. Deacon advised that it is Council's responsibility to hold a public meeting before they make a decision—they will likely ask planning board to hold a public meeting.

W. J. McLeod appeared before the board seeking information on a possible rezoning of landlocked property north of Bower Avenue, presently zoned as O1 conservation. He pointed out he was not requesting a change to any particular zone but was

only seeking information. Considerable discussion followed on possibilities which might be open but no further action was undertaken. The difficulties in servicing the area with municipal water and sewer mains were emphasized.

Mr. McLeod also inquired about regulations governing signs in residential areas and whose job it was to enforce the zoning by-law. Mr. Deacon advised that it was Council's job to enforce the by-law.

Membership in the Community Planning Association was renewed at an annual fee of \$25. An account for professional services in the preparation of the new Compiled Plan of the Town of Acton from C. F. Leatherland was also approved.

The citizens of Acton want a Community Centre—not only do they want a centre but they have backed their desires with cold, hard cash. At the committee meeting on Monday evening, treasurer Lorne Youngblut reported the campaign had reached the \$59,000 figure. With returns still coming in, there is no doubt but that the minimum amount required, \$60,000, will be exceeded. The canvass is continuing and all canvassers are urged to make their final returns by June 10.

If you were away, were missing in the canvass or were unable to pledge during the house-to-house canvass by the Legion members and are now prepared to contribute, please get in touch with a member of the committee. He will be sure you have an opportunity to contribute. Do It Now—now is the time the committee needs a commitment from you.

Some pledges were made and paid by cheque. These cheques have been cashed and the money

has been invested in treasury notes. By this investment, the money will be available when required for the building and in the meantime, the maximum amount of interest will be earned.

On Wednesday evening, members of the municipal council attended a committee meeting to hear a report on the progress of the campaign and to hear suggestions from the committee on how the actual building program can be implemented with the least possible delay.

**Discuss Obligations**

In the discussion of the meeting, the obligations of the Community Centre Committee to the contributors and the obligations of the council to the ratepayer were outlined.

It was suggested council form a special building committee composed of members of the town building committee and members of the fund raising committee. It was felt this type of a building committee could coordinate the construction program and utilize all avenues of support available.

Another suggestion advanced at the meeting was the preparation and publishing of an independently audited statement of the receipts and expenditures of all transactions concerning the centre at the conclusion of the project.

**Plans Turned Over**

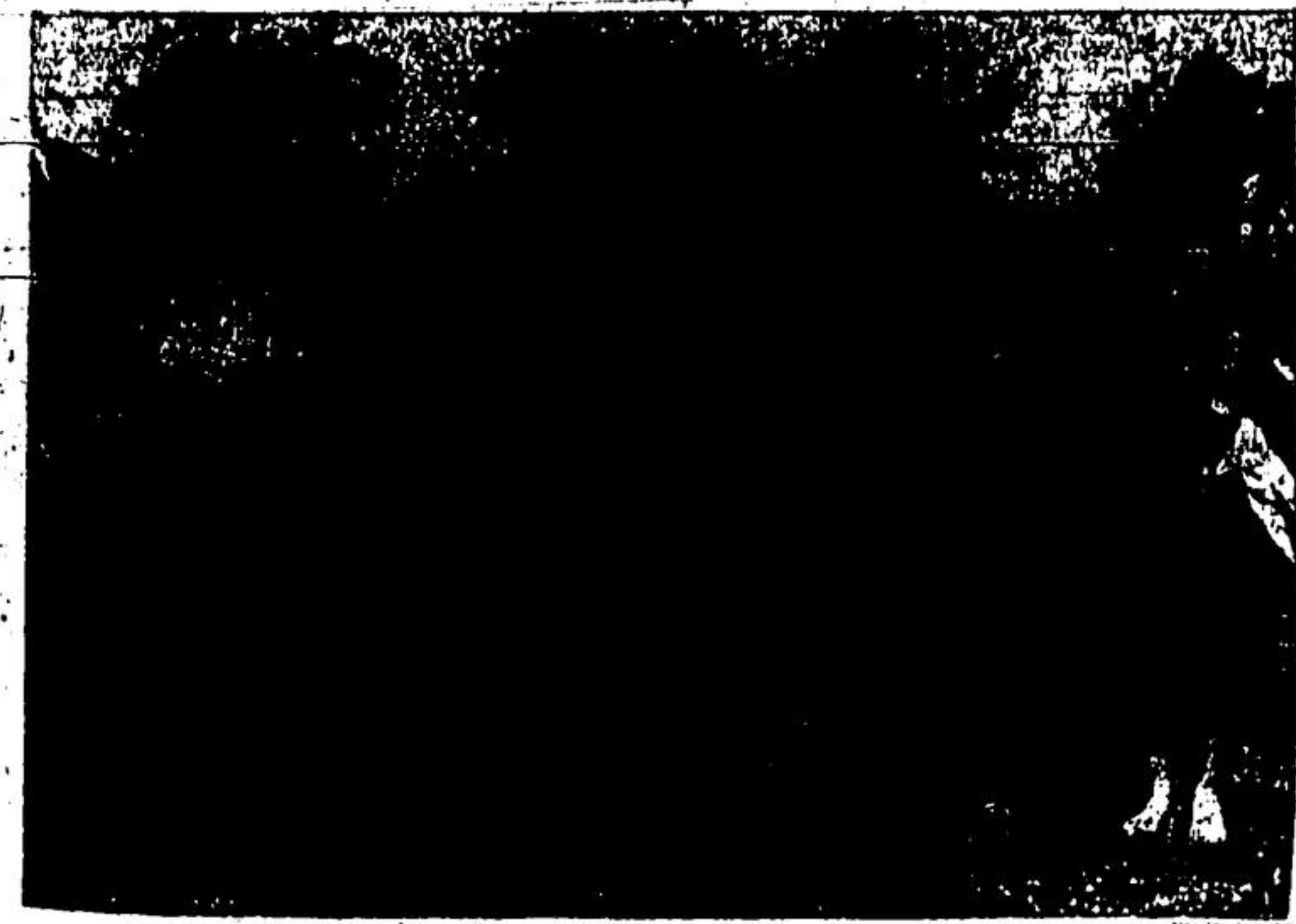
The preliminary architectural plans prepared for the Community Centre Committee were turned over to council, who are now prepared, after study and minor revisions, to authorize the preparation of final plans and specifications by the architect. The architect will guide these plans through approval of the various governmental agencies. Tenders will then be called on the construction.

A healthy boost for the campaign came this week when the Lions Club made their pledge. The club, which adopted an artificial ice program as their project, turned over all the funds they had raised prior to the campaign.

**Club Gives \$1,000**

When the club was chartered, \$500 was set aside for the program. Last winter, a further \$225 was raised by the Skating Carnival that was unfortunately thwarted out. A further \$275 of the club funds was added to the pot and the club turned over \$1,000 this week.

The club has promoted artificial ice through fair weather and foul and has kept the program alive when there was not the support evident that has now been demonstrated.



SEVERAL ORGANIZATIONS participated in the Decoration Day parade Sunday afternoon when they marched from the C.N.R. station to Fairview Cemetery. Pictured above are representatives from a few of the organizations including Acton Legion, Legion Ladies' Auxiliary, Brownies, Guides, Scouts, Cubs, Acton Citizens' Band, Acton Junior Pipe Band, Guelph Pipe Band and I.O.D.E. In the picture are Mrs. Harry Halladay, Cavell Marshall, Cheryl Lee, Arnold Williamson, Kendra Paige, Anne Fryer, Mrs. A. Ford, Mrs. B. Mowat, Phil Caddick, Jimmie Ware, Alec Commando, Mel Stewart and George Smith.

### Gives Comparison

## Inspector Reports H.S. Marks Here Improved

Acton District High School Board was handed a limp bouquet Monday evening when school inspector G. E. Johnson informed members pupils' average marks in 1960-61 are the highest he has seen here. He indicated, however, that an improvement could be made as he presented a statistical analysis comparing Acton with six other schools in his area.

The inspector informed the board the comparison was not made to present any school as a "horrible example" but to point out any differences between schools of comparable size. The report covered teacher-student ratio, promotion percentages in grades, expenses and debture payments.

A summary of the inspector's report follows. The other six schools were not mentioned by name but only figures given:

**Teacher-pupil ratio:** Acton 24.2; 20.2; 21.6; 23.7; 20.8; 21.6; 21.3. After presenting these figures, the inspector told the board the Department of Education had recommended a maximum ratio of 25 pupils per teacher.

**Grades 9, 10, 11 combined, % promotion:** Acton 73; 82; 80; 88; 78; 74; 78. (Mr. Johnson stated Acton was not rated as high as he would like to see.)

**Grade 12 % passes on papers tried:** Acton 90; 83; 78; 86; 82; 77; 86.

**Grade 13 % passes on departmental exams:** Acton 77.9; 91.5; 82.9; 86; 87; 81; 67.

**Expenses on Equipment:** Acton \$8; \$12.6; \$10.1; \$11; \$16; \$11.3; \$6.7. The inspector reported the figures did not indicate the actual dollars per pupil for the calendar year as the estimates were only taken for attendance to September, 1960.

**Maintenance Expenditure Average:** Acton \$400; next two schools \$400; next two \$501; next two \$415.

**Debture payments average:** Acton \$107; next two schools \$175; next two \$225; next two \$125.

Chairman E. S. Force thanked the inspector for the informative report but noted it was only a vague comparison and did not give a complete picture.

**Need Department Heads**

Mr. Johnson told the board the school growth was fast coming to the point where department heads should be adopted and suggested the board should keep an eagle eye out for qualified teachers for this work.

The inspector expressed his regret at Acton losing Mrs. E. C. Reed, assistant principal, and stated, "It is teachers of her calibre who make excellent department heads."

Trustee Rev. Dwight I. Engel directed a request from two teachers to the board regarding consideration of salary adjustments in view of previous experience. After a thorough discussion, the secretary was instructed to contact the teachers in question and explain the board policy that the experience provision was applicable to the board only at the time of hiring and was used in the best judgement of the board at that time.

**Two New Teachers**

Following a letter of resignation from industrial arts teacher Phil Caddick, the board was informed Thomas Capter, formerly of Branford, had been engaged to fill this vacancy. Principal E. J. Hansen also told members George Jaeger, formerly of Essex, had been engaged to take Mrs. Reed's place.

The school caretakers received a pat on the back from the board when it was learned the sanitary sewer system at the school was being kept in top notch condition.

**Music Supervisor**

Arrangements were completed for the public schools and high school to share the services of music supervisor Glenn Banks during the next term. According to the agreement, the music supervisor's time will be divided between the three schools with total salary to be divided accordingly between the two school boards.

ingly between the two school boards. Board members were pleased to learn of the presentation of a used set of the Encyclopedia Britannica had been presented to the school by M. Z. Bennett public school teacher Mrs. Kay Alger.

A request for new steel bicycle racks and transfer of the principal's office to a different location was approved and directed to property chairman William Coon for finalization.

Following the resignation of attendance officer George Spencer-Lee, board members instructed the principal and secretary to seek new applicants for the position.

The principal reported several grade nine students were failing to apply themselves during classes in anticipation of entering technical training school in Guelph next term. The principal was instructed to take necessary disciplinary action.

Trustee Engel reported as chairman of the staff and public relations committee, a meeting had been held Monday afternoon in an attempt to determine the purpose of education and resolve the best methods in achieving this purpose.

The trustee reported the meeting was quite interesting and informative. It had been agreed the purpose of education was to enable each student to fit into society to the best of his or her ability and to contribute to society to his or her highest capacity.

Chairman E. S. Force commended the trustee on his excellent progress and urged continuation of this program.

The secretary-treasurer informed the board a complaint had been received from one of the bus operators regarding a child leaving a stone at the school while it was returning children to their homes. It was learned necessary steps had been taken and the incident was cleared up to satisfaction.

During a pre-graduation banquet at Acton District High School Friday evening, teachers and students exchanged many tributes with special honors being given to Bruce Andrews for his excellent sportsmanship in bringing credit to both school and town.

The young track star, although racing in most events under the colors of the Guelph Legion Track Club, has carried the school colors to victory on many occasions and has won the praise of not only the students but citizens in general.

On receipt of a cuff link set, Bruce praised the teaching staff for their interest and assistance in all the pupils. A similar set was presented to Barry Kirkness for his untiring efforts on behalf of the student council, who were hosts for the evening get-together.

Guest speaker for the evening was Dr. William Mitchell of the Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph. In addressing students and guests, he pointed out one of the main problems facing graduates today is the tremendous need to understand one another in the troubled world.

Stressing the vast changes since his own high school graduation in 1940, the guest speaker noted that at that time a different kind of challenge faced the graduates as military power through a controlling force throughout the world.

In congratulating the 1961 graduating class, Dr. Mitchell pointed out that in spite of many opportunities, their future was entirely what they made it. On behalf of grade 13, Wayne Ridley thanked the speaker and presented him with a gift.

**Make Presentations**

Irene Varey, rated top grade 13 student, was presented with a brooch and she in turn presented a set of planters to principal E. J. Hansen on behalf of the graduating class. Staff member Mrs. J. Galloway also received a brooch, presented by teacher Michael Bevan.

Grade 13 form teacher Ross Lambourn, who is leaving Acton, was presented with a walk from grade 13. The presentation was made by Jean Moffat, past president of the student council.

Assistant principal Mrs. E. C. Reed, who is leaving the school for a position in North York, commended the grade 13 class as she proposed a toast, praising the association between pupils and staff and their achievements while at school. In conclusion, she wished the graduates every success in the coming departmental examinations and in their future careers.



DECORATION DAY wreath was placed at the cairn in the Pioneer Cemetery Sunday afternoon by Bill Graham and W. G. O. Oakes, nearby residents. The two men have been faithful workers in the old cemetery and have kept the grass trimmed and the grounds well groomed. They were given the honor of placing the wreath.

## Fete Bruce Andrews, Athlete, at Banquet

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### 91st Birthday For Mrs. Mowat

Mrs. John A. Mowat, Sr., celebrated her 91st birthday on May 31st last winter. A further \$225 was raised by the Skating Carnival that was unfortunately thwarted out. A further \$275 of the club funds was added to the pot and the club turned over \$1,000 this week.

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### C. K. Browne 91 Still Merchant

Charles Kelly Browne, well-known Acton merchant and a staunch Orangeman, celebrated his 91st birthday Sunday when a group of relatives and friends dropped in to congratulate him.

After undergoing a serious operation some months ago, he regained his health and once again is able to greet his customers in his tobacco and confectionery store on Main Street north, operated by himself and his wife.

The Free Press joins his many friends in the Acton district in wishing Mr. Browne a belated Happy Birthday and many more years of good health.

## Pastor James M. Rudd Guest Speaker During Annual Decoration Day Service

Proud red geraniums were planted at the graves of service men and families placed bouquets at the graves of loved ones again on Sunday at the annual Decoration Day service. A parade was followed by a brief service at Fairview cemetery, when pastor James Rudd urged his many listeners to cherish the ideals of those who had died.

Service men's graves were decorated in St. Joseph's cemetery, Pioneer cemetery and Fairview cemetery, and many families took part bringing plants and bouquets.

W. H. Peal as parade marshal headed the groups which marched with Acton Citizens' Band, Acton Junior Pipe Band and the Guelph Pipe Band.

Parading in uniform were the firemen, brownies, guides, cubs and scouts, with representatives of the organizations taking part carrying their groups' flags, whipped by a strong wind.

At the spacious field beside the highway at the entrance to the cemetery, a large truck was banked with geraniums and color parties placed their flags here also. Seated on the platform

were representatives of the municipal association, the Rev. H. B. Stokreef, the Rev. Dwight Engel, the Rev. A. H. McKenzie and James Rudd, council representatives Les Duby, Frank Toth, Bert Hinton, Bill Dennis and Jack Newton; Legion president Max Storey, Ladies' Auxiliary president George Angell, Mrs. George Hargrave, president of Acton Women's Institute, Mrs. Jack Newton of the fire department, Decoration Day committee chairman Cyril Leighton, Member of Parliament Alexander "Sandie" Best and Member of the Legislative Assembly Stan Hall.

**"Town Effort"**

Mr. Leighton explained Decoration Day was "really a town effort" and Bert Hinton, representative council member, thanked the organizations which made it possible.

Mr. McKenzie gave the call to worship and invocation. Mr. Engel read the scripture and Mr. Stokreef led in prayer.

Mr. McKenzie introduced James Rudd, pastor of the Baptist church, who graduated last year from Gordon Divinity

School, Boston, as "beloved in his community and in his church." Mr. Rudd will be ordained into the ministry a week from Tuesday.

Mr. Rudd quoted the apostle Paul, who said "I was born free, and this is not without parallel here, where we have freedom of speech and freedom of religion. The privileges of freedom are not enjoyed in all countries of the globe," he said. "The men by whose graves we are gathered died that we may be free. Had they not been willing to make the supreme sacrifice, we would not have a promise for posterity."

What can we do, he asked, to give them "as today, pay tribute. We can also give our rights in a free society to the full. Those who do not use their privileges lose them.

We must renew our vows to go to the scripture and discover Christian principles. Secondly, we must make these principles the warp and woof of our families and individual lives."

"They being dead, yet speak," he quoted, concluding, "Do we

cherish their ideals? God help us to do so."

**Decorate Graves**

Names of servicemen were read as representative came forward for their scarlet geraniums and went throughout the cemetery planting them. Acton Citizens' Band played.

Vic Elliott, Orville Brown and Cyril Leighton decorated five servicemen's graves in St. Joseph's cemetery. Earlier, a wreath was placed at the Pioneer cemetery by W. J. O. Oakes and W. K. Graham. Both these men have been most faithful in helping maintain the Pioneer cemetery.

Sponsors of the Decoration Day observances are Acton Branch 197 Canadian Legion, Legion Ladies' Auxiliary, Lakeside Chapter I.O.D.E., Duke of Devonshire chapter I.O.D.E., Women's Institutes of Acton, Dublin and Bannockburn, the Fire Department, Acton Citizens' Band, Acton Junior Pipe Band and the Local Orange Lodge No. 447.

Chairman is Mr. Leighton, secretary Mrs. H. Orr and treasurer Miss R. C. Clark. Uniformed St. John Ambulance Brigade members were on duty.



GRADE 13 STUDENTS enjoyed a graduation banquet and dance at the school auditorium Friday evening and heard guest speaker Dr. Mitchell from the Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph. Pictured above front row left to right are Doug Ruddick, Doreen Gordon, Jean Moffat, Susan Wilson, Marcell Marshall, Irene Varey and Barry Kirkness. Back row left to right are Bob Hinton, Frank Marisak, Paul Elliott, Don Lindsay, Harold Reid, Andy Williams, Wayne Ridley, Pete Lawson, Jim Lindsay, Ross Swackhamer, Lawrence Duby, Stewart McDonald, Bruce Andrews and Denis Gibbons.