

# The Acton Free Press.

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## Move One Classroom Due to Leaky Roofs

Principal G. W. McKenzie of the Robert Little public school is having his headaches these days and it is not with the pupils—it's the weather. Out of 12 classrooms in the new section six have roofs leaking. One classroom was vacated Wednesday when a combined grade 6-7 class moved to the old stone school. Grade five may possibly vacate their classroom tomorrow.

Pre-cast concrete slab roof material seems to be the cause of the trouble and both the Robert Little and M. Z. Bennett schools are having the same problem. Principal Elmer Smith at the M. Z. Bennett school feels more fortunate however in that only three leaks have appeared and they are in a place where water runs down provided floor drains.

Not only Acton schools are plagued with leaking roofs, the problem exists in many other centres. Architects for the schools have investigated the cause and stated it is impossible to make repairs until the weather clears.

## C. of C. Hands Bouquet to Workmen Praises Men for Snow Removal Method

A letter approving of the "method in which snow removal has been carried out this year with a minimum of inconvenience" in the business district, from the Chamber of Commerce was received by Council Tuesday evening. Reeve Hargrave said it was "part of the works department job but they have gone over their job." Council decided to passing along the pat on the back to the town staff.

Councillor Duhay also reported several congratulating calls. He brought up the matter of illegal over night parking on the streets, which greatly hinders the plowing. Clerk McGeachie said because of the overnight parking on the streets there is "no use going out with the plows at night." The police committee was to in-

struct the police department to lay charges under the municipal by-laws.

**Assessment Hearings Over**  
The Clerk also reported the completion of the hearing of assessment appeals by Judge George Elliott. Revised assessment notices have been sent out and there is now a 21 day period in which these assessments can be appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board.

Reductions in assessment granted by the Court of Revision and the judges' decision have been reduced by land, \$3300; buildings \$115,700; business tax 30,700; a total of \$149,700. This brings the total assessment for 1962 taxes from the original \$7,000,000, to approximately \$6,850,000.

**Grave Charges**  
The charges levied for grave openings at the cemetery have been increased. The charge for a standard opening is now \$35 up from \$30, and \$45 for a vault up from \$40. Rates in surrounding municipalities are \$40 and \$50.

The clerk reported no objections to the amendment to the zoning by-law had been received and a declaration to this effect had been forwarded to the O.M.B. The amendment concerns the property for the proposed liquor store. Notices of the by-law change had been sent to owners of 72 properties in the vicinity of the location.

**\$10,000 Arrives**  
A letter from the Department of Agriculture was received along with a cheque for \$10,000 the grant by the government on the new Community Centre. A letter of thanks was to be sent.

The regular by-law requesting grants on the anticipated maintenance costs of roads and bridges in the municipality was read and passed.

Community Centre accounts amounting to \$15,079.96 were approved.

Deputy Reeve Denny reported he had received complaints about smoke from the dump.

**Replant Trees?**  
Councillor Peal suggested signs should be erected directing people to the police office. He also recommended a tree planting program be undertaken this year to replace trees which have been cut down.

## Snow, Ice Storm Slows Traffic Only Two Accidents Reported

Traffic was almost at a standstill following Friday night's storm when roads in the rural area were plugged in some sections. Motorists in town crawled to and from their homes and snowplows and sanding crews were kept busy throughout the night and on into Saturday morning.

Town workmen worked day and night in an attempt to haul snow away from the main streets and hardly had they finished when another snow storm, followed by freezing rain, plugged the areas again.

**Fog Comes Down**  
Monday morning's freezing rain hindered garbage collection and workmen were behind schedule. Traffic was reduced to a mere crawl and motorists drove with their lights on as fog began to settle in. Some workers walked to work instead of driving and took a chance on the icy sidewalks.

Handling a school bus on normal roads is a hard enough chore, but a bus loaded with school stuff, weighing around 18 tons and travelling over rural roads, glaring with ice is beyond the average driver's scope.

Acton will participate in the Regional Planning Workshop being held in Georgetown; two councillors and two Planning Board members will attend. Cost to the town is \$10. The first session is on March 22.

A suggestion that the town provide a no parking area of 10 feet (Continued on Page Five)

Monday morning E. G. Tyler and son Fred had their hands full travelling the rural routes to bring students to the Acton District High school as freezing rain made roads treacherous. In some spots only a hole was punched through the road where plows had broken through after last Friday's snow storm.

**Just 15 Mins. Late**  
In spite of the icy conditions students arrived at the school in time for their first morning class even though the buses ran approximately 15 minutes behind their regular schedule. Under normal conditions buses arrive at the school around 8:45 a.m. in time to give students a chance to get ready for the first class.

Local dairy operators were able to complete their route for milk pickups and had little difficulty delivering milk to customers. Taxis were busy as several people left their cars in the garage and took a cab. Housewives stayed within the bounds of their homes unless they absolutely had to go out and school children had a grand time slipping and sliding to school.

In spite of the icy conditions only two accidents were reported in Halton County.

**SCOUTS, CUBS AND FATHERS** who attended the Ballinacree Father and Son banquet enjoyed a talk by guest speaker Ed Joyce of Milton. Mr. Joyce is a Rover Scouter and gave a most interesting and enjoyable talk. Pictured above following the dinner are the guest speaker with some of the leaders, Scouts and one Cub. Left to right are Mike Norton, Gubmaster, Bryan Wood, Mrs. L. Young, District Cubmaster, Allan Jamieson, Mr. Joyce, Ross McLean and scoutmaster John Handcock.

## Discuss Near-Peak Power Load Seek Solution From Ont. Hydro

Faced with a near-peak load on No. 2 substation and an overload of 10 per cent. on No. 1 Substation, Acton Hydro Commission spent a near-midnight session, Thursday, February 22, in an attempt to solve the problem. Howard King, Ontario Hydro representative, was present. No conclusions were reached but Ontario Hydro will study estimates and two phases of increasing the power, load and make recommendations at a later date.

During the discussion, it was learned that No. 1 Substation on Willow St. was operating at 1,500 KVA above normal capacity and No. 2 Substation located near the C.N.R. tracks on Queen St. East was operating at 3,000 KVA with a maximum capacity of 3,600 KVA.

**Different Plans**  
Commissioners learned one solution would be for Ontario Hydro to reconnect the present transformers at No. 1 Substation at a cost of \$500 apiece and after switchgear had been installed, the total cost of the project would be \$5,000.

An alternative plan presented to the commission included re-winding the transformers by a private company at an estimated cost of between \$10,000 and \$12,000. This cost includes the switchgear as well.

Mr. King informed members that Ontario Hydro recommended

many of their own substations and although this method is not entirely recommended, it is quite possible. Commissioner E. G. Tyler Sr. asked the representative if Ontario Hydro would be willing to take over the entire project on the substation. He was told they preferred not to get involved on this basis with local commissions.

**Queries Failure**  
Chairman Gordon Beatty enquired what might happen in the event the reconnecting phase failed and was told by hydro superintendent Doug Mason the transformers would burn out and mobile units would have to be brought in if a breakdown occurred.

Mayor John H. Gov asked the representative if Ontario Hydro would assume any responsibility in the event the local commission didn't take any action and he received an emphatic "No."

The chairman noted that it seemed feasible to consider either the reconnecting program at a cost of \$5,000 or the alternative up to a maximum of \$12,000, rather than build a new substation at a cost estimated around \$30,000.

Mr. King was asked to return to Ontario Hydro with all the data and have his department make recommendations on the proper type of equipment to correct the overloading problem.

Commissioners were told by the area representative they had entered in giving a \$100 donation to the Acton Chamber of Commerce for their Christmas street lighting program. He noted the auditors had brought this to his attention and according to the Act, the practice was not allowed.

Chairman Beatty explained the donation had been made in the light of a promotional deal. Mr. Tyler enquired if their action here was any different from any promotional schemes conducted by Ontario Hydro and stated his intention of sponsoring a similar motion another year for the same purpose, providing he was still a member of the commission.

In conclusion, Mr. King stated perhaps the term involved was more objectionable than the purpose intended and suggested perhaps a different term in place of "donation" be used. He was assured by the chairman a correct term would be used in future in order to comply with the Power Act regulations.

**New Uniforms**  
Hydro's meter reader, superintendent and linemen will be equipped with their new uniforms as soon as they are available following the commission's decision to order them from local dealer Paul Nielsen of Paul's Men's and Boys' Wear.

Cost of the complete uniform

## Ballinacree Scout Week Highlighted by Banquet

Boy Scout week was observed by the 1st Ballinacree Cub Pack and Scout Troop in various ways. On Sunday, February 18, they attended the annual district church parade in Knox Church, Georgetown at 3 p.m. and on February 22nd, Lord Baden Powell's birthday, the boys wore their uniform to school.

On Saturday the Cubs were all out in full force as "Good Turn" day when snow shovelling was the most popular duty to perform. The Scout Mothers' Auxiliary served hot chocolate and doughnuts to the boys when they were finished.

On Sunday morning the 1st Ballinacree group attended Church parade in their own church. Mr. Beaton preached a very interesting and timely sermon, entitled "Noah's Ark and the Astronauts." He was assisted in the worship by Cub John Grace and Scout Andy Spiece.

**Display in Store**  
The Scout troop put a fine display in Smith's store for the week, showing some of the work done at meetings and on outdoor activities. They were disappointed on Saturday when the district "cook-out" had to be cancelled due to the storm on Friday night.

On Friday night at 7:15, 88 dads

and lads sat down to their annual father and son banquet. The tables were decorated with the colors of the local group and the place mats and serviettes were most interesting with scouting activities on them. The head table guests included the Cub and Scout leaders, Mrs. J. Wood, Mike Norton, John Handcock and Bud Snow. Mrs. Young, the district Akela, Ed Joyce and Chas. Beaton, Mr. Bellegham, the district commissioner, were unable to attend due to illness in his home.

Following the dinner, Ed Joyce showed colored slides of his trip to Norway in 1949 to the Rover Meet.

**New Group**  
The Scout Mothers' Auxiliary which did such a fine job of catering to the banquet with Mrs. R. French as social convener, was organized about a month ago with the following executive appointed: president Mrs. Angus; vice-president, Mrs. Roden; secretary, Mrs. S. Snow; treasurer, Mrs. J. McLean; sewing, Mrs. W. Sanderson; social, Mrs. French; membership, Mrs. Black; visiting, Mrs. R. Shortill; Mrs. D. Brown, Mrs. P. White, Mrs. Leo Jamieson; phoning, Mrs. E. Smith, Mrs. Cudmore, Mrs. Greygoose, Mrs. R. Swindlehurst, Mrs. G. Spiece.

## Acton Junior Farmers Stage Annual Banquet, Dance Friday

When Acton Junior Farmers held their annual banquet and dance last Friday evening, about 50 enjoyed the evening together. A turkey dinner was served in Ebenezer church.

John Moffat was chairlady and reported on the year's activities, mentioning the fact one of the Acton members, Joy Hayward, was in the ladies' trio which won

the provincial championship. At the head table were county president W. Wilson and Mrs. Wilson, assistant agricultural representative Doug Barnside; home economist Frances Lampman, and Sandy Buchanan, past president of Halton Junior Farmers. Ron Hayward thanked the ladies who made the meal. Mr. Buchanan presented the slate of new officers.

## M. Z. Bennett Operetta "Days O' Kerry Dancing" Packs School Auditorium Last Night



The Robert Little school auditorium was packed to capacity last night (Wednesday) as parents and friends watched the presentation by M. Z. Bennett school pupils of the operetta "Days O' Kerry Dancing." A sell-out crowd is expected again tonight (Thursday) for the second showing.

The Wednesday night cast pleased the audience as Granny O'Malley played by Ruthann Leatherland and her ever-loving Irish husband Patrick played by George Wallis recalled 50 years

ago when they were in Ireland as their attentive grandchild Nona, played by Beverly Brunelle, listened as the curtain rose on the first act. Granny and Patrick O'Malley resting comfortably in rocking chairs tell young Nona a tale of their childhood days in Ireland when Patrick was to race his donkey (acted by Jimmy Ware and Patrick Vale), against the one owned by Dinny Sheehy, played by Jack Bard.

**Tale Depleted**  
As the aged couple sit back

and relax in their rocking chairs and reminisce, the entire tale is depicted by young actors on stage. The County Fair is to be held and Dinny Sheehy plots with a wicked old witch (Gail McHugh) to make certain Pat played by Bob Hart doesn't appear for the race. Pat's red hat which he wears constantly in protection against the ladies is stolen and is given to the witch. Pat is whisked away into the heavens by the ladies where he is made a star child.

Eileen Eagen, depicted by Terry Dowding, is Granny in her younger years and she weeps over the washing well, longing for Pat's return. Her tears act like magic and soon Patrick appears again in a dream. Not until the red cap is recovered from the witch and placed on Pat's head does he fully recover his senses. He enters the race and wins, much to the delight of everyone.

**Prince and Princess**  
The Golden Princess played by

Sally Dick and Prince acted by Mark Kowall appear and invite everyone to join them at their castle for a celebration of their victory and return to earth.

Also taking part in the program were pupils from the kindergarten class, Miss Park, grade 1, Mrs. Alger, grade 2, Miss Allison and grade 4, group 1, Mrs. Beaton.

Children taking part in performances both nights include: leprechauns, Jimmie McKeown, Jimmie Stevenson, Barbara Browne, Mary De Bartola, Lenora Dowling, Lynn Burcombe, colleens and gossamers, Heather M. Coakley, Peg Chisholm, Janet Braada, Pat Chisholm, Garry Collins, Mike Vale, Ken Owen, James Lee, James, Laurie Chisholm, Duane West, Linda Lane, Jenny Bishop, Paul Braada, James Pevcha, Mark Hurst, Mike Marchment, star ladies, Cheryl Lee, Frances Higgins, Doh Gordon, Jean Bulmer, Irene Anderson, Heather Ann Dumars.

The chorus is comprised of the remaining students from grades 4 to 8. Everyone is tak-

ing part with a total cast of 385.

**Credits**  
Music supervisor Glenn Banks directed the operetta and plays the piano. Mrs. Norman Turner is in charge of stage direction. The charming scenery was arranged under the direction of Mrs. Charles Featherland (whose husband is also helping as a staff member). Choreography is by teachers, Miss Jackson, Earl Brears and Al Capper; lighting, by Walter Dubois; make-up, Mrs. W. Spruston, Mrs. P. Dun-

ham, Mrs. J. Dowling, R. R. Park, et al. and Rae West. Many of the mothers made the attractive costumes with some of them coming "from stock."

With no auditorium of their own M. Z. Bennett students practiced in the classrooms and deftly overcame the handicap of only two practices on the actual stage.

Make-up was applied and children dressed in rooms in the Stone School. Chorus were accommodated in classrooms in the main school section.