

# The Acton Free Press.

Eighty-Seventh Year.—No. 37.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, MARCH 8th, 1962

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

Eight Pages—Seven Cents.

## Schooled in Peru, Iran 11-Year-Old Starts Here

Nancy Mae Norton, 11 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Norton, former Actonites, began her first term in a Canadian school Monday when she started at the M. Z. Bennett public school. She is in grade seven with Walter Dubois her teacher. She will be 12 next month.

She has received the bulk of her education in Iran but started to kindergarten when her family lived in Talara, Peru, in South America. When her parents moved to Iran she attended three different schools established by the oil company her father works for, the British Embassy school and the Presbyterian Mission school. Her father, who is head of transport, aviation and marine for the Iranian Oil Operating Company, is presently waiting a new posting and meanwhile is enjoying a couple of months holidays.

He is the son of William Norton, former garage operator in Acton, and first started work in the oil fields when he left Acton in 1955 and went to South America. A son David is presently attending Denver University and hopes to graduate in mechanical engineering.

Mrs. Norton is the former Dorothy McArthur, daughter of Mrs. William McArthur, Brock Avenue. Both Mr. and Mrs. Norton have visited in Acton when they are on holidays and make this their headquarters while visiting friends and relatives.

The Nortons left Iran January 10 and first travelled by air to Beirut, then on to Jerusalem where they toured, returning to Beirut before proceeding to Karachi. Following this they flew to Delhi, India and after making this their headquarters for a stay on to Jaipur for a sight-seeing tour and returned to Delhi. From here they flew to Calcutta and then on to Bangkok, Thailand. From here they visited in Hong Kong, Tokyo, Hawaii and then went to San Francisco where they picked up a car, visited their son David and toured the United States before coming to Acton.

While here they are visiting with Mr. Norton's sister, Mrs. Robert Loutett and his father William Norton, Silvercreek. The family have now been right around the world in their travels and are waiting anxiously for their next posting.



GETTING ACQUAINTED with her first Canadian school proved no hardship for Nancy Mae Norton, daughter of former Actonites Mr. and Mrs. Harry Norton, just back from Iran, who are visiting here for a couple of months. Rather than miss schooling, Nancy started at the M.Z. Bennett school Monday. Pictured above left to right Paulette Bland explains the work detail to Nancy as teacher Walter Dubois looks on.

## Students Complete Plans For High School At Home

Friday March 16, High School students will don their Sunday best, girls will wear corsages and be escorted by their male companions to the annual "At Home" in the school gymnasium. The theme for the evening will be "La Parisienne" and the gym will be transformed to a French locale. Paris of the decor will include the Eiffel Tower, sidewalk cafes, spring flowers and the Arche De Triomphe. Patrons and patronesses for the

evening will include members of the receiving line who are principal and Mrs. E. A. Hansen, Mary Beth Elliot, president of the student council and her escort, Mayor and Mrs. John Goy and trustee Rev. and Mrs. Dwight Engel. Last year over 500 attended the annual event and staff members and the student council are hopeful that former graduates and students will attend to dance to the music of Don Singular and his orchestra.

## Spent 54 Years as Barber Harry Mainprize Retiring

After spending the past 54 years cutting hair, Harry Mainprize, well-known Acton barber, retires Saturday evening at six o'clock. He has barbered in Acton the past 42 years, for 40 of which he has operated his own business.

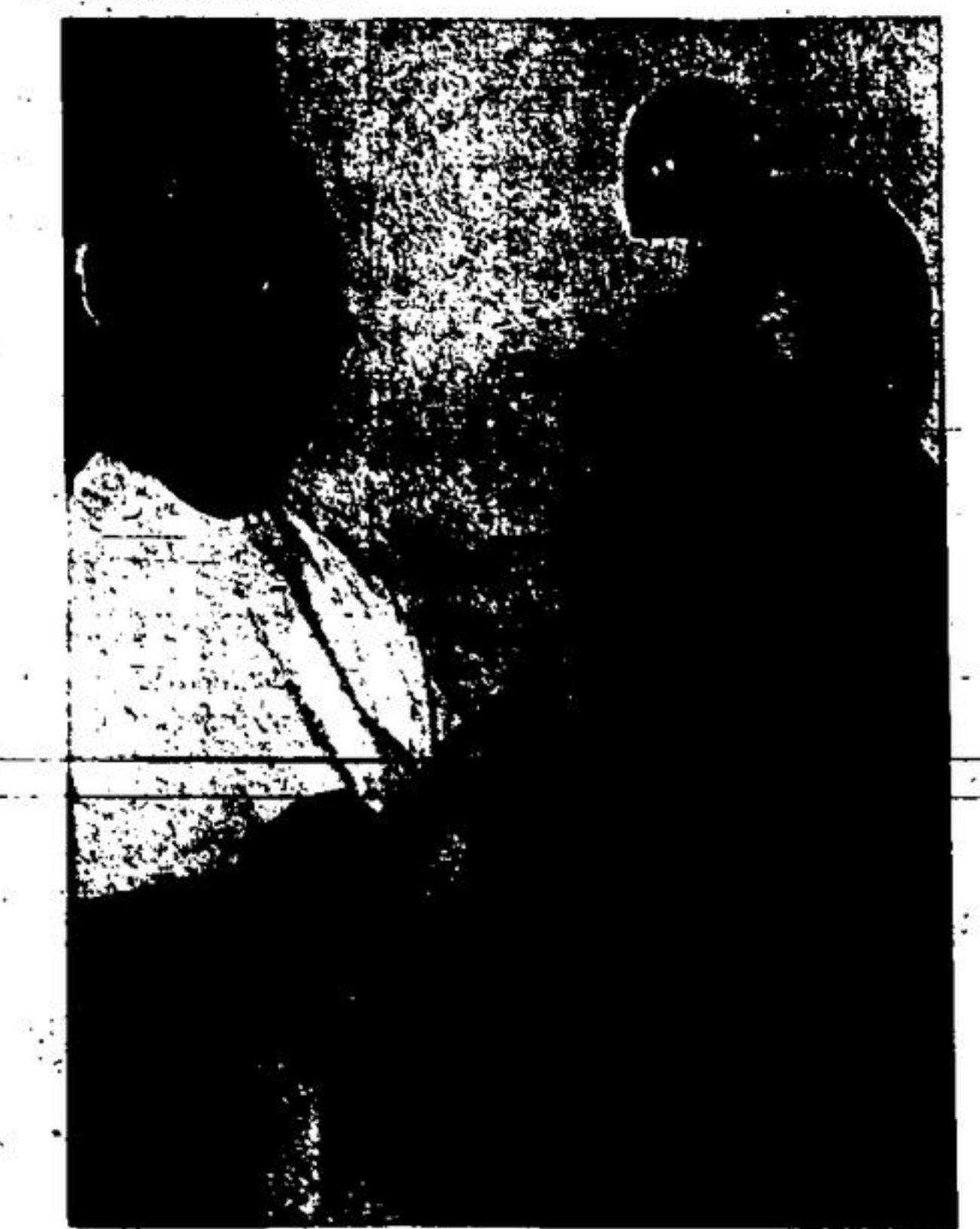
Born in Wingham, he moved with his family to Barkeville, began his barbering in Bracebridge, married and moved to Orillia and in 1920 moved to Acton. For two years he barbered for Sandy McLean before he opened up his own business.

First he operated a barber shop in the frame house next to the Baptist church on Mill Street, later moving to the spot where Newton's 5c to 10c store is located and operated in Leishman's Pool Room which was located there. Later he moved to the spot where Ben Rachlin operates a jewellery store and there he remained for 14 years until moving to his present location at the corner of John and Mill Streets.

The well-known barber regrets retiring in the sense he will miss the friendly chats with the many friends he has made. He will not be idle, however, as both he and his wife intend to take in the sun of St. Petersburg, Florida, until May and then travel to the Muskoka area where they spend the summer boating, fishing, swimming and working around the cottage.

Successor to Mr. Mainprize is Joe Hurst who is not an entire stranger to customers. He has relieved for holidays during the past three years and is well acquainted with many citizens.

Mr. Hurst comes from Bramford where he has a wife and small baby girl. He started barbering in 1950 in Toronto and outside of doing relief work during holidays he has operated his own business. He begins his business Tuesday morning and intends to move his family here as soon as possible.



TOOLS OF THE TRADE are handed over to Joe Hurst, successor to Harry Mainprize, barber in Acton for the past 42 years, shortly after papers were signed Tuesday, for the purchase of the barbering business. Mr. and Mrs. Mainprize intend to enjoy the warmth of the Florida sunshine during the winter and the excitement of Muskoka in the summer time. Mr. Hurst begins work in his new business Tuesday. He has been in Acton the past three years relieving Mr. Mainprize while he holidayed.

## May Require \$600 Extra Levy As School Board Studies Budget

Acton Public School board waded through their regular agenda in jig time Tuesday evening and after this completed a tentative budget for presentation to council prior to nine p.m. With chairman Tom Watson rapping in gavel, members' reports were given promptly and they found themselves with an hour to review the budget before adjournment.

Although final approval is pending, it appears the board will require an additional levy of \$600 over that of last year for operating expenses. Tentative approval was given by the finance committee for a \$70,471.00 budget. During the discussion, members reviewed estimated figures

for projects including a change-over from coal heating to either gas or oil.

Board members learned that architect A. G. Barnes had notified of the leaking roof conditions at both the Robert Little and M. Z. Bennett schools and was requested to clarify who was responsible for the expense involved in rectifying the trouble.

Although no written reply has been received, chairman T. Watson told the members that during a telephone conversation the architect had authorized the caretakers to shovel the snow off the 20 year bonded roof. This had been done but principal G. W. McKenzie told the board that al-

most every room in the new section had sprung a leak. One classroom has been evacuated and unless the problem is corrected soon the entire room may have to be emptied.

Desperate For Books

Principal McKenzie, speaking on behalf of himself and principal Elmer Smith of the M. Z. Bennett school, told the board that both schools were in desperate need of additional library books and if the board would provide a budget for books, the schools would match the amount up to \$300. He was informed consideration would be given.

Accounts totalling \$3,465.82 were approved for payment.

## Forecast \$23,000 Increase For High School Education

Acton District High School board members learned Monday evening of a possible hike in the cost of education when secretary-treasurer William Middleton forecast a \$23,000 increase due to the revised salary schedule and other expenditures. He noted that last year's cost was \$81,000 and this year expenditures could reach the \$104,000 mark.

During the pre-budget meeting, chairman F. S. Force advised the members that council would require the 1962 estimates within the next two weeks. It was agreed to have a finalized budget presented for approval at the board's next meeting.

Guidance Inspector

During the principal's report members learned that Miss Debenbeck, inspector of guidance, would be visiting the school April 2 to discuss the guidance program and would address the teachers at the conclusion of the afternoon classes. The board agreed to have the guidance inspector present for a brief interview

during the regular meeting the same evening.

Mr. Hansen informed the board that several companies had submitted quotations for equipment at the Stone School but to date nothing had been settled. The principal and assistant principal Michael Bevan were authorized to meet with company representatives regarding the equipment and report to property chairman Wallace Swackhamer.

Seek Six Teachers

Chairman Force touched briefly on the trip to Toronto during the afternoon when principal Hansen, secretary Middleton and trustee Dwight Engel and himself had interviewed teachers for the benefit of trustees Swackhamer and Dan Mollat, the chairman stated it would appear they would be engaging good teachers. Six teachers will be hired.

After reading an exchange of correspondence between himself and finance chairman Jack Reid absent on a trip to Europe,

secretary Middleton told the board he had agreed to settle for the annual salary of \$1,600 offered by the board. During a previous meeting the secretary had asked the board to reconsider the salary schedule before making any final conclusion.

Verbal Bouquet

Mr. Middleton also stated he would prepare a "job description" as suggested by the finance chairman in order to let the board know exactly what his duties were. Chairman Force handed the secretary a verbal bouquet for his performance of duties in the past and thanked him for accepting the proposed salary schedule.

Also approved at the meeting was a supporting operational schedule which ties in with the teachers' salary schedule approved during last month's meeting. Secretary \$1,600, clerical help \$2,000, caretakers \$6,500, Stone school maintenance \$500.

Accounts totalling \$12,216.70 were approved for payment.

## Sun Bright

## Board Approves Gym Drapes After Two-Year Discussion

High school students taking part in gymnasium activities will no longer have to squint on account of bright sunlight pouring through the gym windows. Monday evening the high school board approved installation of drapes for the recently tinted windows.

This action concluded a two-year hassle between teachers and board members in an attempt to

solve the problem of sunlight affecting gym activities. Last year the board set the wheels in motion and tinted the windows in order to cut down the glare. At that time they agreed it was not the final solution to the problem of sun versus student but were quite satisfied with the first step taken.

Monday evening property chairman Wallace Swackhamer read

a letter directed to him and signed by the physical education teacher Mrs. Jess Galloway. The writer requested consideration of drapes as the sun was a deterrent to certain gym programs and also prevented the showing of films.

It was learned that instead of showing a film to five classes at one time it was necessary to

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## Board Recommends Council Consider Three Off-Street Parking Projects

A recommendation for an extensive off-street parking project was unveiled by Planning Board members at their meeting Wednesday evening. The plan, now to be forwarded to Council, envisions three off-street parking locations. The first location considered was on Main Street North and involves the property of John Smith, 24 Main St. N., the house owned by D. H. Lindsay and occupied by W. Lorenz behind the Dominion Hotel. Also to be negotiated would be an agreement with the proprietors of the Dominion Hotel.

The second location would involve the area occupied by the homes of Mrs. B. Chew on Main St. N. and J. Dennis and the Legion owned house on Willow St. N.

Site for the proposed third location was the property facing the north side of Church St. between Elgin and John Sts. and the duplex brick house facing on John St.

Various methods of financing

Digester Damage

Collapse of a section of the roof and floating lid on the digester tank at the sewage disposal plant is receiving the attention of engineers and the town work staff. Investigations are being made to determine the cause of the breakdown, which has also put the heat exchangers out of operation. Preliminary reports indicate there may be considerable work and repairs necessary to put the plant back into operation.

and acquiring the property were briefly discussed. The plan now goes to Council for their consideration. If Council views the suggestions with favor, further studies by the board of the "physical, social and economic conditions" of the plan would be investigated.

No Definite Action

Another recommendation of the planning board to Council to

acquire industrial land was returned to the board. The secretary, J. McGeachie, reported Council "feel the idea has merit but (Council) is not prepared for definite action."

H. H. Hinton and K. Hardman were appointed board representatives to attend the Regional Planning Workshop.

The secretary reported that final approval had been received

from the Municipal Board on the amendment to the Zoning By-law on the liquor store property on Queen St. East. The town may now issue a building permit for the store.

President H. H. Hinton invited board members to attend the Chamber of Commerce special meeting on off-street parking, to be held in Knox Presbyterian church on March 14.

## Lions Club to Donate Chairs, Tables for Centre

Parks Board members, Wednesday evening, chose the type of chair and matching table they desired for use in the new auditorium at the Community Centre. Although no specified number was finalized, the chairs and tables will be a donation from Acton Lions Club.

Club members, Ray Arbie and Alex Johnson were present with samples of chairs and asked the board to choose the type they preferred. The delegates stated the Lions Club was willing to donate the stacking type tables and chairs and asked the members to name other projects necessary to complete furnishings.

Plans were made for the Lions Club to enjoy the facilities of the auditorium to hold a reception for skaters and officials of the Galt Skating Club following the skating carnival. Prior to leaving the meeting, the delegates extended an invitation to board members to attend the reception.

Arena Renovations

Secretary Joe Hurst was instructed to invite representatives from the Acton Curling Club to the next meeting to discuss reno-

visions at the arena which will affect their storage space for curling stones.

Plans were finalized to engage an Oakville firm to shave the surface Sunday and all arena activities have been called off in order to have this work completed.

Members discussed the Parks Board budget and after paring estimates, they reached an iden-

tical budget to last year and will submit to council for their consideration a \$2,685 budget for 1962 operations.

Board members ran into some difficulty in attempting to finalize a budget for operational expenses for the Community Centre and decided to hold a special meeting in order to discuss fully the entire work program anticipated this year.

## Esqueusing Buys Site For Township Office

Esqueusing Council Monday approved the purchase of a \$7,000 five-acre parcel of land as the site of a new township administration quarters.

The property lies on the west side of the Seventh Line between the Check Line Road and Highway 7, and is to be purchased from owner C. Gregg. A by-law authorizing the purchase was approved by council.

There are yet no plans for a new building, but councillors have been discussing the need for a new office building for the past few months.

Protest Levy

Councillors on Monday raised a protest against the 16 Mile Creek Conservation Authority levy of \$3,489.72 for 1962. Members claimed it was twice as high as last year's levy.

## Door Still on

## Trapped in Old Ice Box Find Six-Year-Old Lad

Lost for two and a half hours, six-year-old Jimmy Harris was finally discovered around 8 p.m. Saturday night stiff and extremely cold in an old abandoned ice box on the property owned by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Tom Harris, R.R. 4, Acton. The child was located by his mother after she heard a faint call directing her, "Mummy, I'm in the bush."

She rushed to the old ice box at the edge of the bush and freed the youngster who was cold and shivering and suffering from shock.

Mrs. Harris had earlier gone to

town to shop leaving her children with her husband. Mr. Harris, a scrap dealer, had picked up the ice box and two old washing machines that afternoon but since he was having trouble with his truck, didn't take time to knock off the door as is his usual practice.

Young Jimmy, who was playing around the yard, disappeared about the time his father was repairing the truck and when called for supper didn't answer. The neighbors were alerted in the event he had gone visiting and then his father thought he might

have ventured to the home of his grandparents Mr. and Mrs. A. J. McIsaac, R.R. 4.

Mrs. Harris, still in town shopping, was waiting for her husband to pick her up. When he didn't arrive she left for home with her mother and father-in-law. When she arrived home she learned the youngster was missing and joined in the search.

Prior to her hearing the child call out faintly, searchers had passed by the ice box time and time again but didn't hear a sound. They believe now he was asleep at these times.



SHROVE TUESDAY meant a large stack of pancakes smothered in butter and drowned in maple syrup to four hungry lassies when they attended Limehouse Presbyterian church pancake supper Tuesday. Pictured above left to right are Joy Patterson, Mary Lou Brown, Betty Anne Brown and Eleanor Karn as they poised their forks ready to devour the pancakes. Standing at the rear with a fresh supply of maple syrup are left Mrs. Ted Brown and right Mrs. A. C. Patterson. About 90 people attended.