Six Years to Build Castle Destroyed by Fire Overnight

castle was a district landmark, tion was not held in high regard. doned the property and the great presently owned by Mr. and Mrs. This later developed into the Co- stone castle. McLaren family for many years country. and was widely known as McLar. The castle had many fine feat made use of it. After a year he

en's castle. This is a brief story of McLary was the well, 200 feet deep. The castle to James Day Ross. en's Castle.

out to Canada from . Callender, and floor. not far from Belfountain.

and carpenters from Scotland and McLaren family until 1937. they embarked on a gigantic project.

lica of one in Perthshire, Scot- township council, on Peel County

Six Long Years

the building site.

The carpenters were equally engaged over the years. They brought down giant oaks and instance, was solid bak and three inches thick.

ten times as large (cubic tootage)

ith ceilings 16 feet high. Speciacular View

out over miles and miles of the afternoon.

surrounding countryside. Looking 40 miles to the south he could see the sailing ships on Lake Ontario as they headed into

When he spotted the mail packets, Postmaster McLaren knew the mail would arrive within a few days. He served as post-

master for 40 years. When Mr. McLaren turned his gaze towards the southwest he P.S.L Extends could see the mist rising from P.S.L Extends Niagara Falls.

Secret Meetings McLaren's Castle had an fil toric interest in Ontario in var-Wycerus in a stale business while it can

Couple in Hespital Following Accident

Fire chief Mick Holmes and his wife Charlotte are hospitalized in Peet Momorial, hospital Brampton, suffering from injur ics received Saturday night in a two-car collision.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Holme and two passengers in their car were sent to hospital following the socident Mr and Mrs Glen Gibbs. Acton, were released cent objective has ben surpassed, might not conflict with the been, outlined and as soon

after treatment teeth. His wife received an in towns by the 19 appresentatives juied knee and ankle, broken has now been completed. teeth and a gash in her right. The offices in Georgetown, hand which will require skin-Oakville and Burlington are open

7 highway near No. 10 at Bramp, plications, and answer all enton about 11 to pine they were quittes returning from a hockey game in

. Then car driven by Mr Hol mes, was involved in an accident

MOUD WOUNDE of the public school - speaking contest, Tony Hurst, holds his trophy while Mrs. Audrey Urguhers, tretery treasurer of Acton on belief of the

A century-old castle at Belfoun- lous ways. The great attic on the scores of woodcutters and si tain that took six years to build third thoor served as the secret ers. was destroyed by flames in one meeting place for Grange meet- . When the company cut out all night a few weeks ago. McLaren's lings in a day when this organiza- the merchantable timber, it aban-

D. Ross. It was owned by the op movement in this part of the St. Clair Low of Toronto tures. In the full size basement sold the 300 acres including the

Scotland. He took up 300 acres . The living room was about 20 Brampton. of land on the Caledon Mountains feet square and the dining room. The entire building was devast south of the Forks of the Credit, was approximately the same size, ated by fire early this month. There were many fireplaces.

Municipal Life During that time it had been On a promontory they started of considerable political importto creet a castle that was a rep- ance. Mr. McLaren served on the

- It was a herculcan task. As In 1937 the property was sold many as a dozen stone masons to a lumber company. The lumworked for six years. Granite was her company was interested only taken out of the nearby mound in the hundred acres of prime tains, cut, and hauled by oxen to maple trees. The company used the castle as a bunkhouse for the left standing.

Council and he also served as

largest room in the castle was Mr. Ross lived at that time in In 1860 James McLaren came the master bedroom on the sec- Oakville and had his law office in Toronto, later moving it to

bought the property but he never

Everything was lost, including all He brought out stone masons. The property remained in the the furniture, the family's personal possessions and even their

two pet dogs. There was no hope whatever of Ladies Aid rebuilding.

Insurance on the castle was only \$20,000. The huge stone building could not be replaced for ten times that amount.-Insurance on the furniture and other possessions was \$5,000, not

nearly enough to replace the loss.

Teachers Judge

staff members of the Acton Dis-

ed Gail McHugh first, Jeanie

Sproston second and Steven

was given a special honorable.

Well Represented

maples and formed huge timbers and boards. The main door, for Public Speakers on Program The castle, while modest by At M. Z. Bennett H. and S. British standards, was perhaps At M. Z. Bennett H. and S.

as the average Canadian house. * The program at the M. Z. Ben- ments in Outer Space"; Jean Bul-There were 18 rooms, some nett Home and School Associa- mer, "Ontario's Powerful tion meeting last . Thursday, ers"; Barbara Cook, "Dreams of March 21 took the form of a the Future"; Gail McHugh, "Ont-A stone tower rose to a height public speaking contest. Of the arto's Powerful Rivers"; Steven seven students taking part, the Johnston, "Our Servant, Electri-A circular staircase led to the best three were to be chosen city" and Raymond top of the 54-foot tower. From to speak at the Robert. Little "Dreams of the Future." there Mr. McLaren could look School the following Tuesday

The speakers had drawn num. Mrs. A. Orr and Miss J. Barber, bers for the order in which they would speak and were not in trict High School and they plactroduced by name until after the contest. In order of appearance, they were Jeanie Sproston, who spoke on "Water Safety"; Mark Hurst, "Develop-

Drive a Week

County, the P.S.L-sponsored Hal- by the vice-president, Mrs. G. council. ton County community health Hargrave, on behalf of the Home Chairman Paul Nielsen reports adjusted to the change of sea until April 6. The drive began pen and pencil set. February 4 and was originally...

However, due to the excellent which followed, Mrs. Hargrave Nielsen. response to date and the large welcomed they many teathers. To date both public school number of people still to be con- present, who made up a sizeable principals have agreed to assist facted P.S.I. officials thought it portion of the audience. The as well as the I tons Club, Y's necessary to run the campaign picture "The Laughing Caya'ter" Men's Club, Chamber of Com-

The compaign has netted over Bruce's classes. 4,000 subscribers and the 60 per. In order that the next meeting. A number of programe have The fire chief is suffering from will be concentrating on rural to hold this on the fourth tagted and a secretary named a four broken libs and broken calls. The canvass of the county's Thursday in April, April 25. . -chairman and directors wil. 5.

daily from 9 to 5 and Saturday The accident occurred on No. from 9 to 12 noon to accept ap-

> sms of the First Robin, puddles clair and Mrs D A Russel any given book, convertibles and conducted by Mrs. W. Linham

Institute Holds Annual Banquet

The Bannox kburn Women's In stitute held their annual banquet at the home of Mrs W J. Mc .- The first day of mild wea Donald on Thursday evening. ther brought people-out blinking March 21, with 17 members presin the sunshine Sunday All of a cnt. After the banquet there was with an obcoming vehicle driven sudden there appeared the fol a short business period and then lowing skipping ropes, shorts, Mrs. W Stores conducted a concrocuses, aunts, uncles and cou test which was won by Mrs. Sin-

extending an inch over the top of . Everyone enjoyed a bingo game Several ladies won prizes

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ONLY BLACKENED SYONE walls remain standing following a devastating fire at Mc-Laren's castle at Belfountain early in March. The remantic-looking, English type castle was built a century ago. People went from miles, around to see it.

gave the study book on "Chal- Philippians 2: 5 to 11. lenge of Tomorrow."

Scripture was taken in unison.

Mrs. Aitken was in charge of the program. Community singing rick" was given by Mrs. McEw- -an. Gail Fuller contributed number of accordion solos Shamrock_contest_was_held_and won by Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Fisher and Mrs. Fuller.

The meeting closed with pray ed for the adult skating group The contest was judged by er by Mrs. Fuller, Lovely refresh- in an innovation it's hoped will ments were served by Mrs. Stor-the repeated next season. About ey, with Mrs. G. Jackson assist- 40 skated and enjoyed functr. ing the hostess.

Johnston third, Barbara Cook Satety Council Both judges acknowledged the fact they had been given a diffi- Keps Appointed

cult task as the speeches were fall of the highest calibre and! Formation of a Safety Council too expensive to make, the audience responded enthus in Acton is evident. To date sevjustically to this statement. At eral organizations have indicated threw the ice off kilter for a ter congratulating them and as at their willingness to lend supsmall reward for their efforts, port and have appointed repres about half an inch of water in To completely cover. Halton each contestant was given a pen sentatives to serve on the safety some places had to be swept off

plan enrolment period will be ex- and School Association. The this week everything issready to son, and just one hockes session tended an extra week, through winner, Gail McHugh, received a constitute the council but stress was missed ed the need for a secretary will ing to devote some time Any. scheduled to conclude March 30. . During the business meeting one interested may contact Mr.

for an additional week. . . went to Mr. Smith's and Mrs. merce, council, firefighters and

During the extra week staff Faster holidays, it was decided as other organizations are conappointed and the project will be raised off the floor.

Missionary Work in Ecuador Described to Dorcas Society

Mrs. S. Fuller was hostess for The Doreas Missionary Society secretary, Mrs. D. Dunk, read the Ladies' Aid with 14 ladies in at the home of Mrs. Wilson last ing. tendance. With the president Tuesday evening, Mrs. E. Presley Mrs. Cripps introduced the 5,000 Pablis boxes, 5,000 2 bus

sick members.

Along the Hills of Light, the spent with Mrs Lemon and Mrs ROSELAWN ORCHARDS, of Irish sorigs was enjoyed. A president, Mrs. Wilson, conducted: Wilson as tea hostess. reading, "Legend of St. Pat, the business of the evening. The

Weather Determines

Sunday evening the band play

Hockey is just about all over

and curling concludes its sec-

ond year with the current bon-

spiel. The skating carnival will

when ice goes out at the arena

When the weather is warm, it's

the ice The plant was speedly

Weather conditions determine

The soaring temperatures

be soon.

End of Ice at Arena

the March meeting of Ospringe Lot Evangel Baptist Church met at minutes of the previous - meet-

presiding, the meeting opened opened the meeting with prayer speaker. Miss Joy Searle, who is boxes: 750 bulk bins and other with the devotional, "Quietness after singing of the hymn "He home on turlough from Ecuador, orchard equipment. Only the stark stone walls are to practice the gift of God," ta- Leadeth Me." The Scripture was She showed slides of the medical Will be held at the farm, 2375; ken by Mrs. McKenzie, who also read by Mrs. Presley, taken-from work and told how many had No. 2 Highway, 2 miles cast of been won for the Lord through Oakville business section, on Mrs. Stan Cripps led in prayer the Christian nurses and doctors Roll call was answered by an for the missionaries and to the in giving a spiritual word to the Irish story. Final arrangements speaker of the evening, Mrs. Fred patients when caring for them. TERMS Cash day of sale were completed for the tea and Lemon praved for the church, from day to day Mrs. Wilson All equipment in excellent con bake sale to be held April 10 needs in the church and for the thanked the speaker and closed dition. the meeting with prayer, after After the hymn. Encamped which a social half hour way

Forestry Club

Saturday morning in a tract of situation isn't serious. fund near the Guelph Junction. The trip was under the supervision of Jack Starr and Jack Brown, representatives of the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests in Hespeler.

Dave Murray, the 4-H Club leadbers were able to collect specimens for their twig and fruit collections.

AUCTION SALES (Continued)

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lake has broken up neatly and there is less danger of flooding this year than usual. In some Members of the local 4H For places in the country roads are estry club enjoyed a field trip inundated temporarily but the

Rotarians did something last week that went against the grain for quite a few. They sat right down and wrote letters - some er, accompanied the 18 club found it a novelty! They sent members on the trip that lasted 40 letters to Rotary clubs from 9.30 in the morning until throughout the world contacted noon. During the trip, club mem- during their search ofr unusual gifts last year. The meeting was classed as an "International undcratanding" meeting.



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