

The Acton Free Press

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Decorate Graves, Honor Dead Stage Parade, Brief Service

A refreshing breeze stirred the humid air of the hottest day so far this year when over 300 gathered in the shade of tall pines for the annual Decoration Day service at Fairview Cemetery. Three uniformed bands and many paraders formed the traditional hollow square around the raised platform where six members of the Ministerial Association and Mayor Les Doby sat. They were flanked by flags and containers of the vivid red geraniums which would later be planted on graves throughout the cemetery by representatives of sponsoring organizations.

Throughout the well-tended cemetery sweet-smelling bouquets of cut flowers had been placed and spring-blooming flowers had been planted on family plots. After the service, the Acton band played while groups strolled through the shady grounds, reminiscing. For some, ancestors they had never known are buried here. For others, memories were painfully fresh.

White crosses were marked with small white crosses and geraniums were planted there.

The three-part parade which moved off from the station included the Acton Citizens' Band in scarlet coats, the brisk Guelph Sea Cadets bugle and drum corps with color party and the killed Guelph Pipe Band, representatives of sponsoring organizations — the Legionnaires, Ladies' Auxiliary to the Legion, both I.O.D.E. chapters, Acton and district Women's Institutes, the L.O.L. and the fire department. Marching with them were Scout, Cubs, Guides and Brownies in uniform with their leaders.

St. John Ambulance Cadets in their new grey uniforms took part in their first local parade. Mrs. George Hargrave is their superintendent.

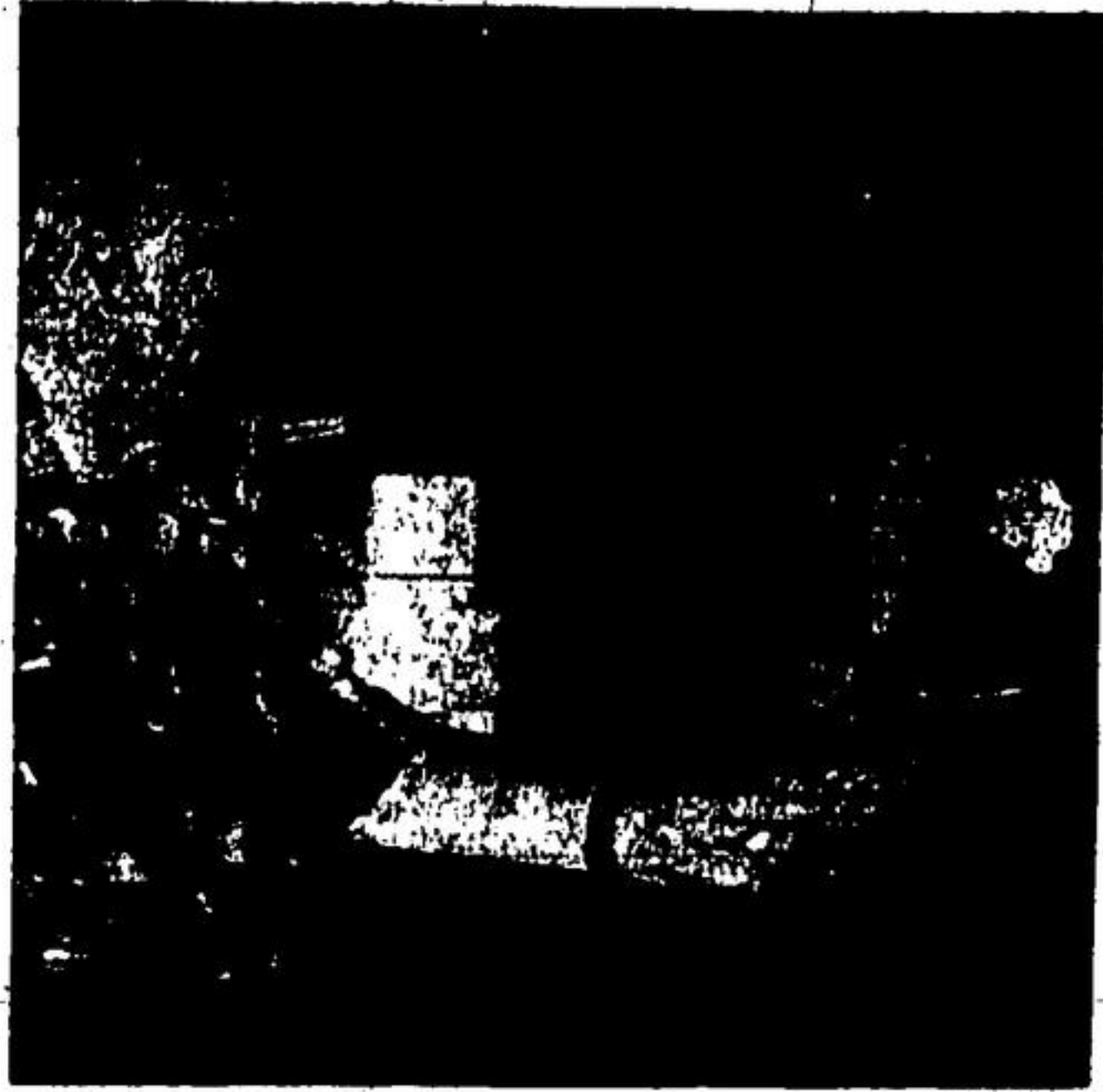
Paired with the well-drilled Sea Cadets on the stiff up-and-downhill route were Acton Fire Fighters, stepping out smartly in their summer uniforms.

Flags were fluttering the length of the parade. Several units had color parties, including the Legion Ladies. The route was lined with large flags on the light standards. These had been augmented this year by four new Red Ensigns. Previously, the flags had been Union Jacks. Jim Gunn was parade marshal.

Six Ministers Mayor Doby welcomed the large crowd; ministers who took part in the brief but reverent service were the Rev. J. H. Wilson, the Rev. D. I. Engel, the Rev. Stanley Gammon, the Rev. D. H. West and the Rev. S. M. Thoman. The Rev. A. H. McKenzie was speaker, sharing the thoughts that came to his mind on this "day of sacred memory." He pointed out the service was not empty formalism, devoid of meaning, but an event in which every member of the community takes part. Remembrance is not only of those who rest in Acton's three cemeteries, but thoughts go out from here to those who lie elsewhere.

The stones themselves are eloquent, he said. The music of the fine old hymn Abide With Me drifted across the hills and the service concluded as the paraders sitting on the grass, the clustered audience, those in the distance under spreading trees and beside the many parked cars rose to sing the Queen.

(Continued on Page Three)



C. K. BROWNE, oldest merchant and prominent lodgeman, celebrated his 93rd birthday Tuesday. He was in his busy store on Main St. N. as usual and was greeted by many friends and lodge members. He is shown behind the counter serving a long-time friend, Bruce Flannigan of Guelph. Mr. Browne is looking forward to reaching his 100th birthday.

C. K. Browne Reaches 93 Tends Store on Birthday

Likely Acton's oldest resident, Charles Kelly Browne celebrated his 93rd birthday quietly Tuesday as he greeted friends and customers in his confectionery and tobacco shop on Main St.

Born in Vasey, a small community near Elmvale, he came to Acton 38 years ago to manage the Boardman Co-op store where Gordon's hardware is now located.

In 1939 he started his own business in a portion of where the I.G.A. store is now and sold to bakery and confectionery supplies. From there he moved to his present location on Main St. N. below the school lane. Although he has been in ill health recently, he has never missed visiting the store recently during a portion of the afternoon.

During these visits he loves to sit and chat with many of his old friends. Seldom seen without a cigar in his mouth, he loves nothing better than to joke with the small fry, his regular customers.

He has no enemies and always has a friendly word for everyone. His hair-raising tales sometimes leave the tiny children with a bewildered look but every one of them admires the nonagenarian. A staunch conservative, he has been active in the organization for many years and has never missed

Estimate \$220,000 for H. S. Addition Extra Gymnasium Ups Cost \$101,000

Tentative approval for a 9-room \$202,000 addition to Acton District High School was received by trustees from the Department of Education at their meeting Monday.

Assurance of municipal financing must now be sought from the councils of Esqueving, Nassagaweya and Acton as well as the Ontario Municipal Board.

Trustees noted the department's tentative approval had not included a gymnasium as originally planned. Included in the proposed addition would be six classrooms, one library, a special commercial room and a laboratory.

On Wednesday Board Chairman Jack Reid reported the Department had advised that including a gymnasium would increase the cost of the project by an estimated \$101,000.

Board secretary W. Middleton explained government grants amounting to 70 per cent would be paid on an amount up to \$220,000. The balance would not be subject to grants.

Secretary William Middleton informed the board members the government grants amounting to 70 per cent would leave an approximate \$60,000 to be shared by the three affected municipalities — Acton, Esqueving and Nassagaweya townships. Before building can be started approval must be received from the local council, Ontario Municipal Board and the Department of Education.

Seeks Gym, Lunch Area

Attending the meeting upon invitation was Oakville architect Don Hallford who made a tour of the building with principal E. A. Hansen and acting assistant principal Michael Bevan. Upon their return, the board verbally engaged Mr. Hallford as architect for the project pending official approval of the project by property chairman Wallace Swackhamer told the board he

would like to see a proper lunch area and an additional gymnasium built at the same time.

Chairman Reid doubted the need of another gym and asked principal Hansen to explain why this was necessary. Mr. Hansen stated the gym is in constant use at all times but according to requirements of the Department of Education the program is not adequate.

Mr. Reid repeated his doubts and asked Mr. Swackhamer to reconsider his thoughts about a lunch area as well as an additional gym.

Mr. Swackhamer emphasized the need for painting the outside woodwork of the old section of the school and the secretary was instructed to call tenders.

Approval was given to engage Anderson Bookstore, Guelph, to sell text books at one school through the student council. After a lengthy discussion a resolution to charge upper grade students \$3 and lower grade students \$5 registration fee to cover referees' fees, laboratory deposit, student council and book deposit etc., was tabled until a later meeting.

When the motion was presented, trustee Chester Anderson opposed charging the students for referees' fees and said the student council projects should pay for this. He also said he might consider the charge on the basis of the unused portion of the student's money would be returned. Trustee Dwight Engel stated

the charge should be levied against essential materials for school only and opposed a charge for anything other than these items. At the request of Mr. Engel the resolution was tabled for

further study. The recommendation for the charge was presented in the principal's report.

Board members also learned from the principal that teachers

(Continued on Page Three)

After Five Years

Skating Career in England For Talented Peter Gibbons

Acton relatives bade good-bye at a party Saturday to Peter Gibbons, talented Guelph youth, who leaves tomorrow (Friday) for England to start a new phase of his career.

Peter, a professional figure skater, has been engaged by a leading English ice show and will live at Douglas, Isle of Man, to skate in Gerald Palmer's production of "Carnival on Ice".

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gibbons, he was born and raised in Acton and took up figure skating at the Guelph College Figure Skating Club. In 1959, the family moved to Guelph so Peter could spend more time on the ice.

Up to Guelph for a farewell party on the weekend were Miss Madeleine Gibbons, his aunt; Mr. and Mrs. Neil Gibbons, uncle and aunt, and family.

In 1961, he was the Western Ontario men's free skating champion. In the same year, he and

his partner, Miss Carol Priano, were the Western Ontario Pair champions.

Turned Pro In the fall of 1961, Peter turned professional to teach at the Kitchener Waterloo Skating Club, where he has been teaching since.

Mr. Gibbons is well known for his performances in "Rhapsody on Ice" presented by the Guelph College Figure Skating Club and also for his guest appearances in this district.

Peter was recently honored by his fellow skaters and friends at a surprise party and was presented with flight luggage for his trip. His parents held a bon voyage party and dance at the Royal Hotel, where over 100 of his close friends and relatives wished him good luck.

In just five short years, Mr. Gibbons has come a long way from a beginner to a performer in a professional ice show.

"It's Not Russia"

Objects to Building By-Law

"This is not Russia, this is Canada, and I'm not going to move or leave during my hours," an irate resident warned Esqueving Township councillors Monday, as he objected to building restrictions on a small Tenth Line house.

Owner J. Cook and his lawyer stalked out of the council meeting when councillors told him to either move the house out of the township, or tear it down. It is only 768 square feet and the by-law called for an 800 square foot minimum. (Last week, the council upped the minimum to 1,000 feet.)

The owner moved the house onto his property this year, to

live in while he erected a new house. (He has a permit for the new one, and it's legal, size.) Mr. Cook explained the small house cost him \$1,200 and it would cost that much to wreck it.

Councillors explained there was no sense in having a by-law and restrictions if they allowed him to break it.

Council also discussed an application to build a house on the Eighth Line in a swampy area. Before giving approval, they asked the Health Unit to check the property and the possibility of a septic tank.

The building inspector reported \$129,525 in residential permits issued during May.

Tokes With Customers

During these visits he loves to sit and chat with many of his old friends. Seldom seen without a cigar in his mouth, he loves nothing better than to joke with the small fry, his regular customers.

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Hard Worker

"C. K." as he is best known credits his long life to hard work. Never once has he had small children leave his store disappointed when they came in with a penny for candy or gum. C. K. and his wife Doris admire the small bakes and treat them as little ambassadors of good will. His wife is carrying on the same tradition learned from a good master.

The Free Press joins with his countless friends in wishing him more years of healthy and happy life.

Ballet School For Gwen Lander

A scholarship for four weeks' summer course in ballet at the Down School of Fine Arts has been won by 15-year-old Gwen Lander. Two scholarships were offered by the Guelph Ballet Academy. Gwen, a student of Miss Carol Mitchell, won in the elementary class.

Announcement of winners was made following auditions in Toronto last Saturday at the Janet Baldwin studio with Miss Baldwin and her assistant judging several from Guelph. The other winner was Landa Neuringburg of Galt, in the senior division.

The summer school will be held at the University of Waterloo and Gwen will live in the beautiful new United Church residence. The girls and their teachers at the University Sunday and posed for publicity shots for the school by the swimming pool.

The school starts July 14 continuing till August 10. Miss Bertha Byers of Toronto will be guest instructor for the course. Talented young Miss Lander has been instructing a few children in ballet at her home, and she's currently planning a demonstration for parents. She's a grade 10 student at Acton high school (for one more week). She has been studying in Guelph for two years and took lessons in Toronto before moving to Acton with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Allan Lander.

Estimate Damage \$1,750 In Three-Vehicle Crash

Total damage in a three-vehicle crash involving two motor cars and a school bus Wednesday afternoon amounted to \$1,750. The accident involved a car driven by Wayne Benson, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Benson of Acton, a car driven by A. R. McIntosh of Dumfries, and an Esqueving school bus operated by Jack Morrow, Georgetown.

North Halton OPP Detachment Constable Ian Cook investigated and stated the McIntosh car was processing south

on No. 25 highway when the school bus travelling north, stopped to let out pupils on the east side of the highway opposite the laneway to James Savers' home. Apparently Mr. McIntosh stopped when the flashing lights on the bus went on and Wayne Benson, travelling behind the McIntosh vehicle, was unable to stop in time to avoid a crash.

Damage to the Benson vehicle was estimated at \$1,350, the McIntosh car at approximately \$200 and the bus around \$150.

Jury Report Praises Manor Urges Jail Replacement

The Grand Jury reported to the County Court sittings on Tuesday with high praise of the Halton Centennial Manor and its operation, and severe criticism of the County Jail facilities. The Jury presented their findings to Halton County Judge G. I. Elliott, following their inspection of the building on Monday. Foreman of the Jury was Geoffrey Bowcock of Burlington.

The Jury described the Centennial Manor as a credit to the County, and commended Superintendent Stan Allen and his staff on their excellent management. They were favorably impressed with cleanliness of the institution, the pleasant, diligent and competent work of the staff, their plans to make use of wasted space in the basement, the fine accommodation, the high fire standards and the good condition of all of the equipment inspected.

The Jury's opening statement on the condition of the County Jail said, "considering the age of the building, it is kept in reasonable condition, save and except for the men's cells and the ground floor, which need painting and a general brightening up." The statement noted that the Governor and his staff are doing an excellent job under extreme difficulties, and consideration to replacing the building with a more modern institution should be looked into.

The report recommended a new building material be used for all interiors and blasted the present conditions as being disgraceful "that any human being should have to exist under these conditions."

The report also recommended that the plumbing be modernized, that wash basins be installed in each cell, that the guards' amenities be replaced more often, that lighting be installed in each cell and that some form of recreation be provided for the inmates.

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Papers, Baskets Out on Saturday

Don't forget to leave bundles of paper and used six quart baskets out early this Saturday. It's Boy Scout paper drive day again.

Proceeds from the sale will be used for the Boy Scout movement in town as well as summer camping trips.

Beginning at nine o'clock in the morning Scouts and Cubs will bite into stacks and tour the town to pick up their wars. When the drive is completed, papers will be transferred to one of Guy Transport Trucks and taken to Galt rag and metal company for sale. Rackets will be disposed of locally.

Papers will be supplied by Messrs. Motors, Jim Ledger, Micro Plastics, Mac Symon and the Town of Acton. The drive is under the supervision of the Scout group committee, who are very hopeful of a good response from the public.



ORIENTATION WEEK at both Robert Little and M. Z. Bennett schools is being held this week for seven new teachers. Left to right are Lesley Anne Doby, Acton graduate of Laurier Teachers' College who will teach grade two at the Robert Little school; Elizabeth Barrie, Wrenham, graduate of Stratford Teachers' College, who will teach grade two at the M. Z. Bennett school; Nancy Jasper, Midway, graduate of Stratford Teachers' College, teaching kindergarten at the R. L. school; Keith Allen, Durham, graduate of Hamilton Teachers' College, teaching industrial arts at the R. L. school; Nellie Steenbergen, Drumbo, graduate of Hamilton teaching grade four at the M. Z. Bennett school; Donna Kingsbury, Rockwood, graduate of Hamilton teaching grade four at the M. Z. Bennett school and Gail Hanna, Dunnville, graduate of Hamilton, teaching kindergarten at the M. Z. Bennett school. They are shown with principals G. W. McKenzie and Elmer Smith.

Open Park

Signs marked the official opening of Acton park for the summer months, and William Ross, park gate attendant, was on hand to sell admission tickets. Mr. Ross said quite a number of Acton residents parked their vehicles outside the gates and walked into the park. A small number of out of town motorists enjoyed the facilities at the park.



DECORATE DAY parade Sunday afternoon was seen by a large gathering of residents who lined the route from the C.N.R. station down Mill St. and up Main St. S. to Fairview cemetery. Top photo shows Acton Citizens' band who headed the parade, second the Guelph Pipe Band and bottom Guelph Sea Cadet Band. Graves at Fairview, Dublin and Pioneer cemeteries were decorated following the brief outdoor ceremony.