

# The Acton Free Press

Eighty-Ninth Year—No. 24

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY DECEMBER 12th, 1963

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## Shoplifters Busy For Yule Season

Acton O.P.P. Corporal Ray Mason this week issued a warning to merchants to keep a sharp eye on strangers who enter their places of business as Christmas time is an opportune period for shoplifters.

The Corporal advises merchants to make certain their entire store is under strict supervision in order to deter shoplifters.

He also stressed the importance of homeowners not leaving money around the house and to use every precaution necessary to prevent homes from being broken into and Christmas presents stolen.

"Make sure the present you buy goes to the person intended and not to some sneak thief," he stressed.

Several shoplifting incidents have already been reported to police.

## Santa, Elf Appear At I.O.D.E. Dinner

A delicious turkey dinner was enjoyed by members of the Duke of Devonshire chapter I.O.D.E. on Tuesday, December 10 at the home of Mrs. W. J. Hearty. The beauty home was beautifully decorated in the Christmas theme.

The program committee, Mrs. Betty, Mrs. Bowles, Mrs. Newton and Mrs. Heller, took charge of the planning and serving of the meal. A short business meeting was conducted by the regent, Miss Maltripe. Letters were read from headquarters urging chapters to donate to the Korean projects fund to buy X-ray film and powdered milk for the Korean children. Empire and World Affairs convener Mrs. H. R. Force read Christmas poems and told a Christmas story.

After the meeting two contests were held: the winners were Mrs. Gordon Johnston and Miss Bennett.

Santa and one of his elves arrived and distributed gifts among the members to bring a delightful evening to a close.

## Youth Hunting Shot in Thigh

North Halton O.P.P. issued a stern warning to hunters to be more careful with firearms this week, following a weekend incident in which an 18-year-old Oakville hunter was shot in the leg by his companions.

Section 18 of the Game and Fish Act provides a fine up to \$1000 and/or imprisonment for one year for "hunting carelessly" police stated.

Bruce McAulay of Oakville was hunting on the Sixth Line ES quiesing with three companions aged 15, 16 and 18, when a rabbit ran between them. The three friends all fired their rifles and McAulay was struck in the thigh. He was treated at Milton District Hospital. Charges are being laid.

Quota Act

The Act states "Every person is guilty of the offense of hunting carelessly who being in possession of an air gun or firearm for the purpose of hunting, discharges or causes to be discharged or handles such air gun or firearm without due care and attention or without reasonable consideration for persons or property."

Just 13 days until Christmas. Read the ads in this paper for Christmas gift suggestions.



**SWORD DANCE** was performed Saturday evening by two young Scottish dancers, Margaret Slaven, Acton and Penny Izatt, Clarkson, during the Scottish Dance Club party in the Robert Little school auditorium. The two youngsters have won many medals and awards for their dancing and are both members of the club. A large audience of members, friends and parents were on hand for the entertainment.

## Make Board Appointments Finalize Election Costs

Acton council Tuesday evening made annual appointments to various boards prior to inaugural meetings in January.

G. W. McKenzie was reappointed to the committee of adjustment for another three-year term. R. R. Parker was reappointed to the Credit Valley Conservation for another year. Chester Anderson and Rev. Dwight Engel were both reappointed to the high school board for another year. Reappointed to the Community Centre Committee were John Coy, Dr. Frank Oakes, Jack Hulough, Claude Cook, Len Lovell, Mrs. Keates, Mrs. H. Otterburn and Hugh Patterson.

New appointments made included William Knight to Planning Board and George Williams, Keith Black and Alex Zschmitt to Parks Board.

Approval was also given the clerk to pay deputy returning officers \$18 each for election day.

## Circulated in Nassageweya Letter Attacks Vote Record

An anonymous letter, directed apparently to all the voters of Nassageweya, took citizens to task for their poor voting record in the recent election when 35.7 per cent of the eligible voters cast ballots.

Signed "One of your own townspeople," the letter claimed only 25 per cent voted. "Don't you care about the future of your township? And about the kind of men who will shape that future for you? Are you prepared to be called 'The Northern Nothing of Halton County' as one member of the Federal Govern-

ment said? I've seen you come out by the hundreds to vote on whether you can buy a drink at a racetrack or not, but when it comes to choosing your government for your own town-ship you are either too lazy or don't care enough to do the right thing at the right time." The mimeographed letter has been post-

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## Council Declines Ballot Recount Drinkwater Applies to Judge

Acton council Tuesday evening decided against requesting a recount of ballots cast during the recent municipal election. Unsuccessful council candidate Bob Drinkwater, who polled seven votes below Mrs. George Prover, had asked council's con-

sideration for a recount and was told he could still take necessary action personally if he wished. Mr. Drinkwater expressed his alarm at the number of spoiled ballots during the recent election. "About 10 per cent of the

people who went to the polls spoiled ballots and I feel this is too high," he said. Clerk-administrator Jack McGeechie admitted the number of spoiled ballots was large but said only 23 of these applied for the vote for council M. Drink-

walter was of the opinion council should investigate the reasons for so many spoiled ballots regardless of where they appeared. Councillor Albert Iwan asked the unsuccessful council candidate if he was asking the tax payers to pay for a recount and Mr. Iwan was told by Mr. Drinkwater it is up to the judge to assess who pays the costs. "I am quite prepared to pay if I have to," Mr. Drinkwater stressed.

Mr. McGeechie explained that council could if it wished, call for a recount of any unsuccessful candidate could do this. Both Reeve H. Hinton and council for Hamilton Place agreed the number of spoiled ballots was in excess and a recount might be in order.

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## Scout Appeal Dollars Coming

Results are very gratifying so far in the Scout Group Committee's dollar-cheque-a-family appeal for funds, but many families have neglected so far to help the very worthwhile cause or perhaps have mislaid the blue cheque provided. Any more donations may be sent simply to Acton Scout Committee, Acton.

Arrangements have been made at the post office for forwarding of donations to the men in charge. Letters and cheques were sent to every family in town, the cheques already imprinted with the "one dollar" figure the committee is aiming for per household.

The men in charge explain this is really very little for each family to give toward the maintenance of the scout hall and work of all the groups. This is the only appeal made this year.

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## O.M.B. Support Promised For High School Addition

Acton council members were greeted with welcoming arms and promised full co-operation by the Ontario Municipal Board on their request for approval for a high school addition when a delegation met with the board in Toronto last week.

Councillor J. Bert Wood, who with Mayor Les Duhé and solicitor Charles F. Leutherland met with J. A. Kennedy, chairman of the O.M.B., told council the welcome met was out and they had been very cordially received.

Tentative Agreement

The purpose for the visit was to seek tentative agreement for the proposed school addition in order to authorize the architect to prepare working plans for the building. This action was taken in view of the importance of having the addition ready for occupancy by next fall.

Mr. Wood explained the board chairman sympathized with the request but stressed the importance of council submitting a five-year working plan for expenditures for the entire town. This forecast includes projected expenditures by both school boards hydro commission and council.

"Gently Criticized"

We were gently criticized for lack of foresight in our forecast and we were asked to revise it and submit a list of total requirements from 1963 to 1968.



**AWARD WINNERS** in the Halton TB poster contest from the M. Z. Bennett school display their winning posters. Left is Bert Hulman, grade 6, and right Carolyn Jerome, grade 7. Both are pupils of teacher Earl Brears. Carol placed first and won \$7 while Bert, who was second, received \$6.

## Chairman Tom Watson Retires Board Member Past 14 Years

One of the youngest men to join the public school board, chairman Tom Watson ended a 14-year term of office Thursday night of last week when he was presented with a pen and pencil set and handed verbal bouquets by his colleagues.

Just elected to the board in 1949 at the age of 26, Mr. Watson has served for the past 14 years and was a member when Acton's first school addition in 50 years was built in 1952. Since that time he has been active in the construction of an addition to the Robert Little school and the new M. Z. Bennett school.

The chairman's achievements were stressed by principal G. W. McKenzie and trustee William Benson as other members chimed in with personal appreciation of his work.

Mr. McKenzie recalled the construction of the Robert Little school after a 44-percent vote. He also cited the chairman's interest in other activities, such as the Boy Scouts, Branch 197 Canadian Legion, Y's Men's Club and many other community interests.

His tribute to the retiring trustee ended on a personal note of thanks and the following quotation:

"We live in deeds, not years. In thoughts, not in figures on a dial. We should count time by heart-throbs. He lives most who thinks most, feels noblest, acts the best."

In Good Hands

Trustee William Benson expressed appreciation for Mr. Watson's service and said: "The reins of education have been in good hands under your leadership. You have given unstinting of your time and talents in the cause of education."

Other members added their sentiments and one reminded the chairman he had not only built the Robert Little school but had done a good job toward filling it. Since he came on the board his family had increased from one to six.

Learned a Lesson

Mr. Watson thanked his colleagues and stated during the 14 years he had learned a lot and made many friends. "I think a lot of other people should get on the board and acquire the education I have received over the years," stressed Mr. Watson.

He also praised both principals. (Continued on Page Three)

## Court of Revision Residential Up \$5,825 Commercial Drops \$17,700

Halton Court of Revision Thursday held a two-day session in Acton, Thursday and Friday, to hear and pass judgment on 36 appeals. Residential assessment received a \$3825 increase while commercial assessment was decreased by \$17,700.

The following is the breakdown of the court's findings: Mackay, 14 homes received a total of \$800 decrease in commercial. Land Real Estate received \$400. Farris and Country Beauty Shop reduction \$400. Mr. D. Cooke, \$200 reduction. K. Paul \$475 reduction. A. Newton \$400 reduction. C. Leighton \$475 reduction. J. Bert Wood \$475 reduction. G. Simpson \$475 reduction. G. Simpson \$475 reduction. G. Simpson \$475 reduction.

A by-law was approved to establish a policy for local boards to request their annual budgets for projected expenditures for the year. Different forms apply to various boards. Affected by this system will be both school boards, planning board, parks board, library board, Acton City Zoning Board and recreation committee.

Both Mr. Pupo and Mr. Consoletto purchased a portion of land from Tony Sexton prior to making application for purchase of land formerly designated as park area on Mill St. E. from the town. Before a building permit could be obtained to erect private dwelling place, the zone has to be changed from commercial to residential.

No application has been made as Planning Board hopes to have a revised zoning plan which members are presently working on completed and approved.

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## Gordon Beatty W.M. of Lodge

Monday evening members of Walker Lodge A.E. & A.M. elected new officers for the coming year. A special banquet was on hand for the occasion and enjoyed by all.

New officers elected are: W.M., Gordon Beatty; P.M., Martin Bower; S.W., H. B. Ramsden; J.W., T. S. Newton; S.D., G. Franklin; T.D., G. C. Lee; D. of C., Lorne Youngblood; E.G., D. V. Egan; S.S., Ray West; T.S., A. Parry; Organist, J. Dolan; Tyler, J. Lambert.

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**CAN-CAN DANCERS** pleased the audience Saturday evening at the Scottish Dance Club party, as they tipped their frilled dresses and danced around the stage. They are pupils in Joyce Carpenter's dance class. Front to back are Bonnie Bristol, Cathy Ashley, Diane Bousfield, Mary Frances Marcoux, Carol Anne Masales, Karen Ashley, Marianne Coles, Peggy Levery, Mrs. Carpenter and Jo-Anne Levery.



**SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS** took part Saturday night at the Robert Little public school auditorium as they joined with many youngsters and other adults who first the interesting program. Left to right are Mr. and Mrs. D. Sweeney, Toronto; Mrs. T. Sweeney, Acton; and David Izatt, Clarkson, Mr. and Mrs. Bob McConnell, Guelph and Mrs. Mike McMillan and Jack McGeechie, both of Acton. They are all members of the Acton Scottish Dance Club.