

# The Acton Free Press

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## Grants Baffle Board So No Budget Ready

Because of their uncertainty about the grant structure changed recently, high school board members were unable to complete their 1964 operating budget to submit to council at their meeting Monday. They will seek help from their auditor.

Acton's Men's Club was granted permission to use the gym for a volleyball tournament during their annual conference, to be held this year in Acton April 11. Permission was also granted for use of school facilities to Marilyn Young when arrangement is completed for a class reunion. Miss Young informed the board she was planning a 1958 Grade 13 class reunion.

Deputy Minister of Education W. R. Stewart suggested in a letter the board should discuss plans for the new school addition with the architect prior to letting a contract. Mr. Stewart pointed out one of the department architects had studied the plans and realized exterior walls were designed so cupboard space jutted out from classrooms, necessitating a series of joists in the exterior wall.

Tenders have already been called and will be opened at a special meeting (Thursday) when board members will review the plans with architect Don Halford.

Boundary Pined Secretary-treasurer William Middleton told the board the high school boundary change involving Acton, Georgetown and Milton had been approved by both the Ontario Municipal Board and Minister of Education. Students will be allowed to complete the year at the school presently attended.

New Teachers Principal E. A. Hansen told the board he has already interviewed a few applicants for teaching positions here and expected several more applications soon. Accounts totalling \$18,638 were approved.



CHRISTIAN REFORMED church minister Rev. Wiebe Van Dijk, wife and family moved to town this week from Hamilton. Mr. and Mrs. Van Dijk are shown above. They have seven children with three of them attending the M. Z. Bennett school. Other children are attending Universities with one in Grade 13 at Hamilton.

## Ambulance Rates To Go Up Soon

Tuesday, No. 1 Committee of council agreed to renew an ambulance service contract with Vern Bogue, proprietor of Royal City Ambulance, Guelph, for another year at an increased guaranteed annual revenue. Mr. Bogue, present for the meeting, told the committee he had lost \$7,000 last year in the ambulance service. He said he has contracted with the city of Guelph for their ambulance service again this year and will receive a higher rate from the city. It is expected the ambulance service will cost the town an additional \$600 under the terms of the new agreement.

Members agreed rates to Georgetown, Milton or Guelph hospitals would be \$20 per trip from Acton, and \$45 to Toronto, Hamilton or Kitchener.

Rates will go into effect as soon as the new contract is signed.

## Council Studies Zoning By-Law

Members of Acton council were acquainted with the proposed zoning by-law Thursday evening of last week when they met with planning board for a joint meeting.

Provisions set out in the proposed by-law were reviewed as well as the new zoning map. Questions asked by council were answered. Planning Consultant M. W. Dake was unable to attend the meeting and a special meeting with the consultant and planning board has been set for Monday evening.

It is hoped the by-law can be completed in time for a public hearing during the first part of April.

## Senior Citizens To Organize Soon

Anyone 60 years young with time to spare can soon while away the hours by joining a Senior Citizens' Club.

Recreation Director Jim Casburn plans to hold an organizational meeting March 9 at the Y.M.C.A. and will have as guest speaker the Senior Citizens' coordinator from the Recreation Commission in Kitchener. Also present will be representatives from several out-of-town clubs.

Plan to attend and enjoy an evening of entertainment after the speakers and wind up with lunch.

## New Store

Proprietors of Glenlea Smoke Shop, Jack Hatch and Art Field, have rented the vacant store on Mill St., where MacKay's Children's Wear store was last. They'll be opening a Hobby Shop there as soon as possible.

## Mary Beth Elliott Wins Time Contest

Grade 13 student Mary Beth Elliott was named local winner in Time magazine's 28 current affairs contest. Other high scoring students included Gary Murr, Barbara Norton, Linda Swackhamer and E. Van Hockelen.

Time's current affairs test was given to more than 750,000 college and high school students in Canada and the United States. Tests consisted of 105 questions on national and foreign affairs as well as such categories as business, sports, entertainment, science, religion, literature, journalism, education and the arts.

Miss Elliott will receive a certificate from the weekly magazine and the choice of either a world globe or a book from a specially selected list.

## Excellent Performances Rise to Climax Serious Play H.S. Drama Club's Choice

"The Valiant", the first play to be presented in Acton in years, had its premiere in the high school auditorium Thursday evening and was repeated Tuesday afternoon for the entire student body. The evening performance brought 180 to the school to applaud the excellent performances of the cast of five.

Staff member Miss Diane McConnell directed the one-act play with a staff of enthusiastic students assisting.

The plot concerned a young convict, sentenced to death, who deliberately keeps the truth of his identity hidden from his sister, come to see if he was the brother she recalled with affection from her childhood. An outstanding performance was given by Ralph Matthews as the convict; he had stepped into the role just three weeks ago after the first student cast for it left school.

David Lidka very ably played a sympathetic older man, the wearing warden of the jail. Percy a long black surplice, Rick Whyte (despite a painful broken toe) was the understanding priest. The young girl was played with sensitivity by Nancy Rogynaldson. John McDonald had a smaller role as the jailer, in uniform.

Not once was there a lino miss; prompter Nancy Lauder didn't have much to do.

Enunciation and expression were surprisingly good, actions and movement about the stage were well planned and naturally carried out.

The surprise ending had the audience spellbound, some even with tears in their eyes. Despite a few lines and a kiss that might have elicited distracting giggles, the young members of the audience on Thursday stayed silent during the unfolding of the dramatic story. Their cooperation and understanding helped make the evening such a success.

Such wasn't the case on Tuesday when some of the audience apparently couldn't accept the play seriously and had to snicker, marring the production for fellow students.

Adjudication In a brief adjudication, vice-principal Michael Bevan commended everyone for "an enjoyable evening."

A good play is a result of considerable effort. He produced applause for the coordinator and director, Miss McConnell.

Since his task was to point out anything that could be improved upon, he had a few suggestions on lighting and makeup, but added they and the props were well done. "The cast should be commended on a perfect rendition. The play heightened as it went along and gripped the

audience at the climax. Picking a star, he had a big verbal "thumbs up" for the convict, Ralph Matthews.

A gift—a cup and saucer—was presented to Miss McConnell.

Who Helped Production staff: costumes, Gay White; lighting, Don Price, Bob Watson; set crew George Besiri, Susan Clarke, Gary Buttenhan, John Davidson, Mary Grischow; ticket manager Yvonne McKewen; makeup, Mary Grischow with R. R. Parker; posters, Carol Beatty, Mary Grischow; ushers, Vickie Newton, Vivian Smith, Gayle Withers, Carol Beatty.

Thanks, Jall! Acknowledgments, according to the mimeographed program, went to Mr. M. Bevan, Mr. R. Spielvogel, Mr. K. McKinnon, Mr. R. Parker, Father V. J. Morgan, Rev. A. McKenzie, Mrs. C. A. Lauder and—unlike as it may sound—to Peel County Jail.

Mrs. Rogers and Miss Meadmore prepared hot chocolate, doughnuts and ice cream for the cast and all the members of the drama club who helped, and a few guests, in the home economics room afterwards.

Richard Burton is opening in "Hamlet in Toronto," somebody quipped, "while Ralph Matthews is opening in The Valiant right here."

## H.S. Teachers' Salary Schedule

Monday evening high school board members finalized the 1964-65 teachers' salary schedule after it had been accepted by staff members. Following is the new schedule.

Group	Min.	Max.
Group 1	4,700	7,900
Group 1A—4 year honor		
Grad Course	4,900	8,200
Group 2	5,100	8,500
Group 3	5,500	9,300
Group 4	5,700	9,600
Principal	11,000	
Vice-Principal	Class 500	
Assistant Principal	Class 200	

Department Head	Class	300
Subject Chairman	Group 200	
Annual Increment		
Teacher, Group 4 & 3	400	
Teacher, Group 2, 1 & 1A	500	
Principal	500	
Vice-Principal	300	
Department Head	500	
Subject Chairman	Group 50	
A Graduate Degree	200	
Experience Allowance		
Groups 4 & 3—in that category	—400 per year to maximum.	
Groups 2, 1 & 1A	—300 per year to maximum.	
Approved Business, Industrial,		

Professional—150 per year, 7 years.

Cumulative Sick leave—100 day maximum.

Gratuity—The Acton District High School Board will pay any teacher retiring permanently from the profession while in the employ of the Acton District High School Board, a gratuity of accumulated sick leave days at the salary rate last received, up to a maximum of 100 days.

Supply Teacher Rate—20 per day and up per group.

## Bleachers, Floodlights Sought Softball Assoc. Calls on Board

Financial support for the Acton Softball Association was sought when a three-man delegation attended the parks board meeting in the town office last Thursday. Ed Pope, Dave Manes and Norm Morton representing the Association requested the board's consideration to install bleachers at the park. The delegates also asked the board to maintain floodlights and charge the Association on a rental basis.

Mr. Pope told the board the Association is considering purchasing a used set of lights from Newmarket; if this is done the cost of installation would be borne by the Association and then lights would be turned over to the Parks Board for maintenance

and power rental to the Association. The board will consider the request.

Miss Janet Rogynaldson representing Acton Land Rangers was present to request use of the park Saturday, May 2 for a district rally. The request was granted.

## Leap Year Baby

A leap year baby—a daughter—was born at Guelph General Hospital to Mrs. Wynne Scott, 141 Poplar Ave., the morning of Saturday, February 29. The family has three other children. Dr. Brian Moore delivered the child who'll only have an official birthday every four years.

Budget estimates for operating expenses this year are \$2,050 higher than last year's budget request. Included in this year's budget is expanding the Glenlea park area and other improvements at Prospect Park.

## \$40,000 Relief in Sight On Cost of H.S. Addition

The municipalities' share of the addition to Acton District High School could be reduced by \$40,000 under the recently approved Municipal Works Assistance program, members of the Board learned this week.

Under the provincial legisla-

tion, municipalities and school boards are allocated a specific sum which may be applied to approved projects. The money is loaned to the municipalities at a reasonable interest rate and if the project is completed by April 1, 1966 the Federal government

"forgives" 25 per cent of the loan. In the case of the 10-room high school addition, completion by the deadline date could save area ratepayers \$21,500. Additional savings in interest on the reduced debt service issue over the 20 year period could reflect the total savings estimated at \$40,000.

Under the grant program an amount equal to 20 per cent of the municipal, school and high school revenue from 1962 taxation is held in reserve pending an application for its use. The reduction would be possible if Acton releases its municipal and public school and high school por-

tion for the high school addition. It would also require release of Nassagaweya's and Evesque's high school portion.

Monday evening finance chairman Chester Anderson of the high school board told members how the program worked. He said deputy reeve J. Bert Wood and clerk administrator Jack McGeehan had visited Queens Park in Toronto and discussed the Municipal Works Assistance program with officials.

Acton council will make application for the loan after receiving approval from Esquimaux and Nassagaweya Townships.

## D.O.H. Reconsiders Will Widen Highway

Town council and Acton Hydro Commission are both waiting anxiously for word from the Department of Highways regarding start of highway widening program through town. Thursday evening of last week, the commission was informed the D.O.H. has reconsidered a three-year postponement of the project and is supposed to be starting in the near future.

Street lighting on both Queen and Young Streets will be affected by the highway program and hydro workers will do the work at the expense of the town. At a previous meeting it was learned the D.O.H. had postponed the highway widening through town for at least three years.

Line re-building from Guelph to Rockwood which is scheduled to begin the middle of this month left commissioners in a quandary: where would Acton receive its power from?

Three weeks ago power had been switched from the Guelph supply to the Pleasant substation near Brampton but after two hours re-switched back again when it was found the Brampton station would not carry the extra load. It had been the intention of Ontario Hydro to switch the power load to the Pleasant substation while repairs were being carried out.

Commissioner Gordon Beatty suggested superintendent Doug Haddock, chief engineer of Ontario Hydro what method of power supply would be adopted during the line re-building.

## Motorists Rush To Buy Plates

Local license issuer Jack Hargrave was one of the busiest men in town last weekend as motorists lined up outside his office to purchase 1964 markers before the Friday deadline for using 1963 plates.

Mr. Hargrave, his wife and daughter-in-law, Mrs. George Hargrave, were kept busy right through to six o'clock closing Friday and were going steadily most of Saturday handling late comers.

Since December, 4,000 new car and station wagon plates have been issued in Acton. Normally 6,000 licenses are issued each year including truck markers.

## View 12 Tenders for Bridges Wait for Engineer's Report

Bids ranged from a low of \$9,474.50 to a high of \$16,928.56 for construction of bridges on Brock and Church Streets when No. 1 committee of council opened 12 tenders Tuesday evening during a public meeting. Also received was one tender for the supply of steel for the two bridges.

No decision can be reached on accepting one of the tenders until the engineer checks out the specifications in each bid with the Department of Highways and makes a recommendation to council next Tuesday.

## Figures Submitted

The following are the tenders received:

W. B. Hamilton Construction, Georgetown, Brock St., bridge \$13,019; Church St., bridge \$13,786; Boschman Construction, R.R. 1, Ancaster, Brock St., bridge \$9,775; Church St., \$10,271; G. C. Romano, Downsview, Brock St., \$19,683; Church St., \$21,831; Gino Averno Construction Ltd., R.R. 1, Acton, Brock St., \$13,314; Church St., \$13,114; Armstrong Bros., Brampton, Brock St., \$15,984.50; Church St., \$16,782.50; Tri-Span Construction, Oakville, Brock St., \$13,332; Church St., \$14,214; Cross Town Paving, Toronto, Brock St., \$15,05; Church St., \$16,928.56; Roger McEachern, Mount Forest.

## Accident-Free Year for Plant

A. P. Green Fire Brick employees have completed 365 working days without an accident resulting in loss of time at the Acton plant.

Employees work in shifts, 24 hours per day, seven days a week. Each day a number is posted on a large board displayed in the working area as a reminder to everyone to be safety conscious.

## Tears of Joy Shed at Airport Man, Wife Meet After 35 Years

Tears of happiness were shed in the fog-shrouded airport at Malton Tuesday evening as Mr. and Mrs. Peter Fedirko were reunited for the first time in 35 years.

After trying for the past 12 years to get his wife out of the Russian-occupied Ukraine, Peter Fedirko's efforts were rewarded as his wife stepped down off the plane shortly after it landed at Malton. Mrs. Fedirko has worked in the sugar beet fields ever since her husband came to Canada.

Make New Life The couple were married in the Ukraine in 1924. Four years later Mr. Fedirko decided to make a new life for his family and came to Canada to work and save enough money to bring the rest of his family here.

In the middle of January arrangements were completed for a trip to Canada and Mr. Fedirko, their daughter Mrs. Joe Prystasz her husband and family waited anxiously in Acton for final word when the wife, mother and grandmother would arrive.

Word was received last weekend Mrs. Fedirko would arrive at Malton Tuesday evening from Russia.

Joyous Reunion Dense fog was no hindrance to the happy husband, joyous daughter and excited grandchildren as they piled in the car and drove to Malton early to wait arrival of the plane at 6.30 p.m. When the plane arrived and passengers unloaded, looks of disappointment showed on their faces. She hadn't arrived! Encouragement came shortly after they learned Mrs. Fedirko was on the second plane scheduled to arrive one hour later.

After greetings were over, the family made the return trip to town where several friends were waiting to extend greetings to Mrs. Fedirko. First chore for Mrs. Prystasz was to have her mother whom she hadn't seen in 22 years, change her clothing to more modern type Canadian style.

Corona Boots When Mrs. Fedirko arrived at Malton she was wearing a pair of high leather boots sent by her husband and which had been made at Corona Shoe Factory



MR. AND MRS. PETER FEDIRKO were reunited after 35 years Tuesday evening when she arrived from the Russian-occupied Ukraine. On arrival in Acton from Malton airport, a reception was held with a few friends at the home of her daughter Mrs. Joe Prystasz. Mrs. Fedirko had not seen her daughter for 22 years and had never seen her three grandchildren. The family are seen shortly after they arrived in Acton. Catherine Prystasz and four-year-old Peter Prystasz seated at rear.