

The Acton Free Press

Ninetyeth Year—No. 15.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8th, 1964

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

Twelve Pages—Ten Cents.

\$50,000 for Industrial Land Approved at Six Hour Session

Acton town council are now in the real estate business. Tuesday evening at a special meeting a by-law was approved to purchase approximately 76.88 acres of land from Anthony Hufnagel at a cost of \$50,000. Land which acquired will be sold or leased for future industrial purposes. (See separate article giving complete breakdown elsewhere on this page.)

Reeve H. H. Hinton opposed a by-law to acquire the land throughout the three readings with Mayor Les Doby, deputy reeve J. Bert Wood, and council member Mrs. George Fryer. Alex Johnston, Ray Johnson, and Albert Irwin voting in the affirmative. Councillor Hamilton Peal was absent for the meeting.

Guarantee Price
Mr. Hinton wondered if the land owner might consider subdividing the property and guaranteeing a certain price per acre, rather than have the town buy the land outright. He said he understood the Van Gils property (previously explored by council) was now available at \$1,000 per acre.

Councillor Arbie doubted the accuracy of the Reeve's statement and said the Van Gils family probably had a second thought about selling their land now, in view of the proposed development on the Hufnagel property. He agreed the reeve's point was well taken but negotiations and time didn't allow second thoughts on another site.

Councillor Eric Johnston, armed with a large placard taped to one wall, continued point by point each step covered in costing and servicing the area in question. He told council members the establishment of the site would possibly discourage any present industry moving from town on account of a lack of expanding space.

The councillor also thought additional industry would also create a work pool and enable about 20 per cent of present residents working out-of-town to be employed in Acton.

Reeve Hinton fought a lone battle to the last ditch during the six hour session, the longest meeting for the past three years. The Reeve opposed the project on the grounds the proposed costs, expenditures for services and debentures was prohibitive. In his view the town's existing debenture debt and the projected capital works program for the next five years (which he estimated around \$1,319,000) are too great.

After quoting a long list of other figures which the reeve claimed would add to the town's burden, deputy reeve J. Bert Wood, who is also finance chairman, related Mr. Hinton's statements and was backed up by clerk-administrator Jack McGeechie.

After the three entered a heated battle, the mayor urged council not to overlook existing industry. "We could lose some of this providing we fail to provide land for expansion," Mr. Doby stressed.

The Reeve cautioned council it could carry this thing too far and said, "Why not ask the town or a plebiscite?" Councillor Mrs. George Fryer replied, "Why ask the town, when we were put here to make decisions, we can't take every little problem to the taxpayers." The lady councillor also told the reeve, "You should know what you are doing or you shouldn't be here in the first place."

Mayor Doby was urged to call the vote for the third reading of the by-law as council were aware Mr. Hinton would make a visit to the minister urging a plebiscite anyway. When the reeve related the statement the deputy reeve said "everyone had been made aware at committee level the reeve intended to visit the minister. In fact he has already been there. Regardless of how we vote, he is going for a plebiscite," stressed Mr. Wood.

Will Fight Reeve
Before the final vote was called, councillor Alex Johnston stated he was prepared to fight Mr. Hinton on the issue. "If he goes to the minister, so do I," he emphasized. In conclusion the Mayor quipped "I don't intend to be in Florida either."

O.M.A. Final Say
Before the land purchase can be finalized, a copy of the by-law must receive final decision of the Ontario Municipal Affairs Minister.

Proposal for Land Purchase Studied by Council Tuesday

The following is the presentation submitted to Acton council Tuesday evening by council industrial committee chairman Eric Johnston prior to a final decision to purchase the land.

SUMMARY — Costs and Pertinent Data — Proposed Industrial Land
October 6, 1964.

NOTES —
Land available in proposed area — less roads 70.27 acres
Proposed cost of land — \$655,000/acre (76.88 acres) \$50,000
Cost — Services and grading (less street lights) \$129,200
Cost of land, services and grading — Approx. \$2,560 — per acre
Debiture costs on "First Stage" (includes purchase and grading of 76.8 acres, plus services to 28.5 acres) \$60,750
Debiture cost on "Second Stage" Nil

FIRST STAGE —
Develop Parcel No. 1 (28.5 acres saleable blocks) Road "C" and 1000 ft. Road "A")
Costs — Land 76.88 acres \$ 50,000
Grading total area (76.88 ac.) 10,000
Services (less street lights) 30,600
(\$3,180/acre)
Total \$ 90,600
Debiture on above (5 1/2% - 20 yr.) 60,750
Grand Total \$ 151,350

SECOND STAGE —
Develop Parcel No. 2 (41.8 acres saleable blocks — Eumsh Road "A" and "B")
Costs — Land Nil
Grading Nil
Services \$ 88,600
(\$2,120/acre)
Total \$ 88,600



"OLD SWEATS" who joined the 164th Battalion from Acton during World War I joined with comrades Saturday evening at the Legion auditorium for the annual reunion. Seated in front is Fred Coles, Boer War veteran as well as a vet of World War I. Back row left to right are former Actonian Mel Collier, now of Scarborough, Dr. A. J. Buchanan, F. E. Barr, Sam Snow, Harry Goldham, Georgetown, Norm Marshall, Eden Mills and Jimmy Loutit.

Report Improvement in Grade 13 11 Students Receive Certificates

Grade 13 results show a marked improvement over the '63 figures, high school board members were told as they perused graphs at their meeting in the high school Monday.

Figures were prepared by principal Hansen and vice-principal Bevan breaking down the results.

Papers Excluded
Excluded from the report are students with no confidential mark (such as adult private students) and those with a confidential mark of below 50, who wrote papers and were not successful.

Of six students with recommendation marks of 35 or better in all subjects who wrote nine or more papers, all six will receive their diplomas at commencement.

According to the report a total of 158 papers were written, 144 passed and 14 failed. Marks included 24 first class honors, 19 second class honors, 35 third class honors and 66 credits.

11 Diplomas
One student wrote eight papers and will receive a diploma after two years in grade 13; 19 students wrote fewer than eight papers with four who were repeating grade 13, receiving diplomas.

Twenty-four students wrote sufficient papers to qualify for diplomas and of these, 11 will receive them. Seven of these

tried grade 13 exams for the first time.
(When results were received in August it was revealed 10 would receive certificates. Since then granting of awards by Lou Laine Lasby has qualified her also for a certificate, and she is now attending university.)

Gradual Increase
Vice-principal Michael Bevan told the board the grade 13 student results showed a gradual increase and said the increase was not due to any one factor but an overall improvement in teaching abilities, interest by the student and general conditions.

Mr. Hansen also reported strict inspector F. W. Vickers had visited the school as well as four other inspectors to view individual teaching methods.

New Rooms Soon
The principal said several classes had been held in the auditorium bleachers but it was hoped the four classrooms in the upper section of the new addition would be in use next week.

A majority vote authorized the principal to investigate the installation of a telephone in Mr. Bevan's office for guidance and if approved by the chairman J. Reid, vice-chairman Dwight Engel and trustee Duncan Moffat. Opposing the phone were trustees Kerwin McPhail and Chester Anderson.

Trustee Dwight Engel suggested the board not conduct an official opening or dedication when the new addition is completed at which time the public can tour the building. Members agreed to this suggestion and the date for the public viewing is expected to be early next year.

Board members approved the spending of \$50 for a social evening for board staff members in order to become better acquainted.

Monthly accounts totalling \$23,000.51 were passed for payment.
Property chairman Kerwin McPhail solved the problem of building a new incinerator at the school for burning papers when he told the board the town superintendent agreed to pick up garbage at the school providing refuse was packed in proper containers.

Mr. McPhail said he had heard complaints about students having to purchase certain type of running shoe for use in the school gym and wondered if there was a set policy for a certain type of shoe to be used. Principal Hansen said the new physical education teacher Miss Moulton had ordered a sturdy type of running shoe at a local store for a number of girls. Mr. McPhail agreed the students should be wearing a suitable protective shoe but thought the type of shoe required shouldn't change from year to year.

Publication Change

Under newly adopted plans to speed delivery of the weekly copies of The Acton Free Press, the publication will be issued Thursday morning beginning October 22.

The earlier issue will mean rural readers will receive their copies the same day. Schedules are being adjusted to meet post office requirements for rural delivery on the Thursday rather than Friday as has been the case in the past.

The drive for earlier publication is a reflection of changing shopping patterns. While Saturday evening was once the common shopping night, Friday has now been generally accepted and already some centres are also open on Thursday evening.

Earlier delivery of the papers will be helpful to advertisers outlining their weekend specials as well as to readers who will want to take advantage of them in advance of Friday shopping.

The earlier production necessary has meant extensive revisions in deadlines for news material, and advertising. The cooperation of all in making the change possible will be required.

It will be necessary to receive news reports before Wednesday noon. Classified display advertising will be accepted until 5 p.m. Tuesday and Classified advertising until Wednesday noon. Display advertising will be required before Tuesday noon.

Complete production schedules in the plant have been drastically altered to facilitate the earlier publication of The Free Press.

Managing Editor Dave Dills called for cooperation from the many correspondents, club secretaries, and group reporters as well as advertisers to meet the shift in time. "There are bound to be some problems and perhaps a little confusion when you change a publication time but after the first two weeks it is hoped the pattern will be reasonably well established," he commented.

Every effort will be extended to keep the news coverage in the weekly issue as timely as possible. While it may not be possible to cover all the Wednesday evening news developments every thing possible will be done to cover some of them.

"The change will be a distinct challenge but with the cooperation of readers, advertisers and correspondents the change can go smoothly," Dave Dills concluded.

Public Schools Share More Gym Equipment

Acton Robert Little school auditorium may soon be used more extensively as a gymnasium for pupils from both M. Z. Bennett and Robert Little schools. The property committee was advised to investigate immediately costs and types of physical education equipment as soon as possible during the regular meeting Thursday of last week.

Vice-principal Doug Copeland, who is also physical education instructor at the R. L. school, asked the board's consideration of wall bars and climbing ropes for use in the auditorium. Trustee Louis Bonnette agreed the room should also be used for a gym and suggested the board purchase equipment which would last. He advised the board to make a start on some equipment if the budget would not stand the entire purchase.

Principal Elmer Smith of the M. Z. Bennett school said he would be happy to turn over any money left for equipment at his school for this purchase providing grade seven and eight pupils from his school would have use of the equipment as well.

Inspector W. E. McNeil suggested board members immediately view other schools where this type of equipment is in use in order to make a decision. It was agreed to have Mr. Copeland and the committee investigate.

A suggestion to have a board-teacher gathering to become better acquainted was left in abeyance until a later meeting.

Teachers' Convention
During the report of principal G. W. McKenzie of the R. L. school, board members learned the school would be closed for teachers' convention Monday, October 19. He also reported Miss Nancy Webb was attending

special kindergarten classes at Hamilton and grade seven and eight teachers were attending monthly in-service meetings with other teachers and inspector McNeil at Milton.

The principal was authorized to spend up to \$50 for a vacuum cleaner for the home economics room.

Milk Method
Principal Elmer Smith of the M. Z. Bennett school informed the board enrollment at his school this term was up by four pupils since the last day of school in June. Present enrolment is 410 as opposed to 406 previously.

Mr. Smith also reported he was now buying milk for kindergarten classes by the quart and distributing it to pupils by paper cups. By this method, no milk is wasted, danger of accident by broken bottles eliminated and a saving effected in the cost of purchase. Board members commended the principal on this method.

H.S. Award
A new scholarship will be available to girls at Acton high school.
At a meeting Thursday in Milton, the University Women's Club of Milton — which includes five members from Acton — decided their annual scholarship will also be open to Acton high school girls. It will be awarded at the discretion of the club on the basis of high scholastic achievement to a grade 13 girl graduate studying for a university degree.

Amount specified by the club is "not less than \$50," but this year's award to a Milton girl is \$100.

Committee Recommends

Public Subscription to Offset Debenture Issue for Library

Acton Centennial Committee met on Monday evening to review the steps taken and progress made on Acton's centennial project. From the meeting, four recommendations were made to Acton Council — that a by-law be prepared naming the project "Acton Centennial Library"; that the town ask the Planning Board to rezone the school property acquired to con-

form for a library; that the town secure O.M.A. approval for a debenture issue of \$42,000 to meet the financing requirements; and that a fund raising project be instituted to raise money through public subscription so that the debenture issue would not be required.

Discussing the steps to be taken before an application can be made to the senior governments

for approval and grants, it was found the following information is required — (1) The estimated cost of the project and preliminary plans; (2) A municipal by-law naming and designating the project; (3) The method of financing the construction; (4) Rezoning of the property selected; (5) The program for operation and maintenance of the project. (Continued on Page Seven)

Zoning, Debenture, Naming Clear Way for New Library

Ground work was smoothed for a new proposed \$50,000 library Tuesday evening at special council meeting when members considered four recommendations from the specially appointed centennial committee. The name of the project—Acton Centennial Library—was approved. The town solicitor prepared a by-law to this effect.

Also approved was a resolution to debenture for \$42,000 as the corporation's possible share of the project. A by-law will also be prepared to this effect.

Council will also request Planning Board to rezone a portion of the R. L. school ground to be used for the building from its present status O-1 (conservation) to R-1 (residential) in order to allow the building to be erected there.

Ask More Facts
A fourth resolution recommended by the Centennial committee to authorize the committee to raise \$35,000 by public subscription for the library building was turned down pending further information to council regarding the method of raising the money and details.

Of the total cost amounting to \$50,000, a grant from the Centennial Branch of the government amounting to \$8,000 reduces the cost to the town to \$42,000. In order to receive approval from the Centennial Branch for the project, proof of financing must accompany the application. For this reason, town council approved preparation of a debenture by-law for this.

The Acton Centennial Committee members are of the opin-

ion it is possible to raise money for the construction of the building itself by public subscription. It was recommended council follow this procedure, in order to reduce the amount of debenture issue.

Councillor Ray Arbie, stating his approval for the new library project, wondered what would happen if the public subscription campaign didn't reach the \$35,000

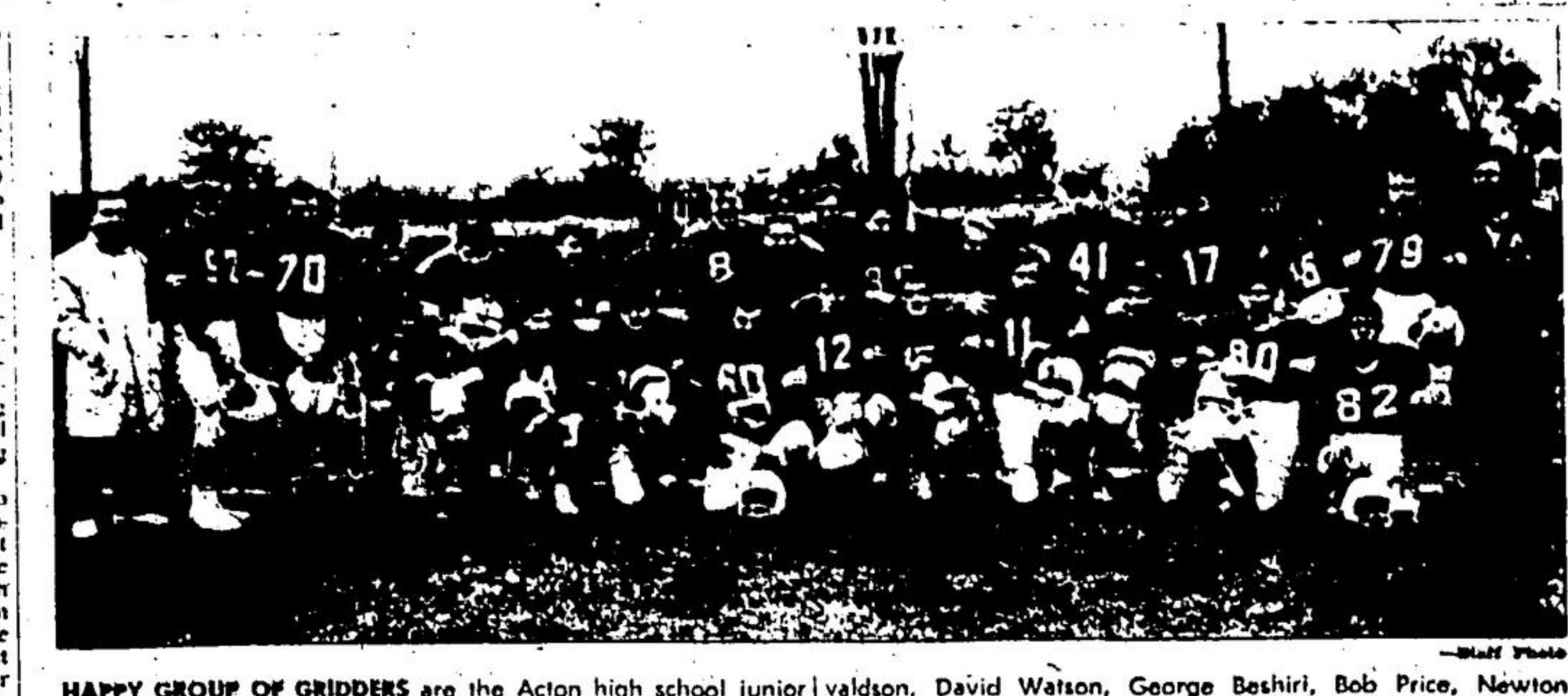
goal, and if ratepayers who had given a donation to the campaign would be refunded their money in the event the town in turn was forced to debenture for money.

Councillor Alex Johnston didn't think any person would be "hit" twice because if only a certain amount were raised by subscription the Centennial Committee

(Continued on Page Seven)



SURPRISE FIRE DRILL, a feature of Fire Prevention Week, brought files of children marching briskly out of the Robert Little school within a few minutes. Here the lower grades with their teachers are shown the town's fire truck by some of the uniformed fire fighters.



HAPPY GROUP OF GRIDDERS are the Acton high school junior Redmen after they defeated Milton 25-0 Monday afternoon. Included in the photo are coach-teacher Ron Holmes and manager Jerry Ockenden. Players in uniform include Doug Allen, Gerry Tellefer, John McGeechie, Steven Johnston, Roy Rog-

valdson, David Watson, George Beshiri, Bob Price, Newton Hunt, Terry Churchill, Phil Dupuis, Jim McCoig, Marj Harris, Walter Blom, Mike Miller, Barry Elliott, Jake Pasma, Ray Hibbard, Kevin Hall, George Wallis, Bob Roughley, David McMillan, Bernie Benton, Vince Dunne, Don Rogers, Tony Hurst.