

The Acton Free Press

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SCHOOL BY-LAW

A two-room addition to Brookville Public School has been approved by the township's school board, and on Monday Nakagawa's Council gave the go-ahead to a by-law providing for \$28,000 to finance it. The by-law will now be forwarded on for approval of the Department of Education.

Name Cliff Bradley To Head Parks Board

Cliff Bradley was chosen Thursday evening of last week to head the Acton Board of Parks Management for his second term. Vice-chairman will be George Williams. Only a bare quorum was present for the inaugural meeting at which little business was transacted.

During a joint session with the administrative committee from the Recreation Committee it was unanimously agreed to hire Owen Coultrup as secretary to serve both bodies. Retiring secretary Joe T. Hurst offered his services in an advisory capacity to assist the new secretary get established.

Former Parks Board member Mrs. Doris Fryer was welcomed back to the board as council representative. Also present for the meeting was Nino Braida, who was re-appointed to the board for another term.

Record Mercury Said 21 Below

Winter's vengeance struck Acton in full last week and Thursday night was one of the coldest reported to date. According to one businessman, the thermometer hovered at 21 below zero before 7:30 p.m.

Other reports the same evening gave temperatures at anywhere from 2 below to 13 below. Friday morning garages were busy pushing stalled cars or using booster batteries to turn over motors.

Pedestrians scurried along the streets with coat collars pulled up around necks, scarves wrapped around them and none caring too much about their general appearance as long as they were warm.

Furnaces in homes worked overtime as thermostats were turned up a few notches to keep homes warm. Children going to school were decked out in extra warm clothing to keep Jack Frost from nipping ears and noses.

The extreme cold turned to milder weather with snow this week.

Model Parliament Sits February 20

Acton District high school will be represented at the Model Parliament February 20 at Georgetown by 10 students, seven representing the Nationalist Party and three the Dominion Party.

During elections of the School's United Nations Club Friday it was decided on a 10:1 ratio for the Nationalist Party over the Dominion Party.

When chosen, representatives will be holding practice sessions prior to their appearance at Georgetown and meanwhile will be gathering information for the Georgetown session.

Don't miss the Minor Hockey Week in Acton co-operative ad sponsored by 47 civic-minded merchants—and businessmen. They support Minor Hockey... let's support them!

ACTON FIREFIGHTERS

were credited with saving the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. McDowell, 98 Agnes St., from complete destruction when fire broke out in the attic. Believed caused by faulty wiring in the attic, the fire had burned through the roof before firefighters arrived. A neighbor, Mrs. H. Harmsra, first noticed something wrong when she glanced out a side window and saw snow melting and running off the McDowell house roof. Lower photo shows Mr. McDowell, A. P. Green Co. plant manager, Orval Chapman, End Firefighter John Krapek discussing how the fire started. —Staff Photo



New Hydro Building Discussed Architect to Give Rough Plan

Inaugural procedure was brief Thursday evening of last week and within minutes after choosing a chairman and vice-chairman, Acton Hydro Commission was knee-deep in business and making customary appointments.

E. G. Tyler Sr. was chosen once again to head the commission as chairman and Doug Dawkins returned to office of vice-chairman. Committee appointments included the vice-chairman and newly-elected commissioner Orval Brown to the administration office in the new building, and Wilfred McEachern and Mayor Les Duby to the finance committee. Chairman Tyler is automatically on both committees.

New Building

Main topic during the meeting was a discussion and review of rough sketch plans for the proposed new hydro building to be erected on Altee St. Architect Don Skinner was present for this session and showed commissioners sketch plans of the exterior of the proposed building, utilizing the existing workshop and storage area.

Mayor Duby's proposal to council Tuesday to include administration offices in the new building was outlined and noted it had been met with mixed feelings by council.

He said that none of the council members would consider having council chambers established in the board room of the proposed hydro building. "I feel we have a council chamber now which we can utilize but there is a definite need for office space," the mayor stressed. He told the commission it would be appreciated if the board room could be used for council committee meetings if town offices were established in the new building as it

Estimate Space

After a discussion on requirements for office space by the town, plus washrooms and kitchen space, it was estimated the town would need approximately 15,000 square feet of additional space. The architect noted the proposed office area for the hydro building is estimated at 1,848 square feet.

Mr. Skinner told commissioners the total proposed area for the new building including the present workshop is estimated at 8,408 square feet. The architect agreed to prepare additional sketch plans to include the town's proposal for the next meeting, as well as others for the hydro proposal only.

Ontario Hydro Rules

Chairman Tyler told the mayor Ontario Hydro had the final say in rental fees to the town and before this could be learned, all costs would have to be determined. Mayor Duby told the commission he did not want to hold up its building program waiting for a decision by council and information given by him regarding required office space had not been council's decision.

Secretary-treasurer Mrs. Audrey Urquhart told members the Guelph office of Ontario Hydro had changed its policy regarding collection of rural hydro bills. Previously, the Acton office accepted payment for rural hydro bills and received a commission of 10 cents apiece. Receipts were mailed to Guelph once a month.

Under the new policy, the Acton commission would be expected to collect the 10-cent commission from the rural consumer and mail returns to Guelph. This was not acceptable to commis-

Prepare Budget

Superintendent Doug Mason reported his staff had almost completed inventory and he would be preparing a capital budget shortly. He also said his department had installed four new water heaters since the previous meeting, started some tree trimming and transformers would be changed at Ajax Engineering plant.

Chairman Tyler welcomed Commissioner Brown to his first meeting since being elected to hydro and told all members there would be a lot of work to do this year, especially with a building program being started. "This could be our biggest year in seven years and we'll all have to knuckle down," he stressed.

DENSE SMOKE

Dense smoke combined with darkness made driving on Queen St. E. slightly hazardous on Thursday night of last week as construction workers lit fires along the side of the road to thaw out ground for excavation of ditches to install new sewers. Traffic was detoured north on Churchill Rd., down Peel St. to No. 7 Highway again.

Miss Emma Mills Reaches 100 Reception, Lunch in Toronto

A congregational luncheon and open house will be held next Sunday, January 24, to mark the 100th birthday of a former Acton resident, Miss Emma Mills. She now lives with her brother and niece at 108 Soranuen Ave., Toronto, a place she is still in surprisingly good health.

Congratulations and best wishes will be extended to her by many friends as she attains a century of life, dedicated to service to others and her church.

She was born 10 decades ago on January 24, 1865, in Walsall, Staffordshire, England, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Mills. There was a family of 11 and just two of them are still living, her brother with whom she lives— he's 93— and herself.

She attended Wisnour public school and recalls she had to pay pennance a week for schooling until free education came in a few years later.

When she started to earn her living she became a children's nurse in England, and she continued that field of work when she came to Canada in 1907. Her brother and his wife had come out before her, in 1904, and she came to them. She has always considered her brother's house "home."

The family moved to Acton in 1919, living on the Crescent, and she came here in 1923. She was a faithful member of the Anglican church, and was in charge of the Junior W.A. here for quite a long time. She was a Sunday school teacher as well. She worked for the rector, the Rev. and Mrs. Sawyer and when they left, she went with them. (The Sawyers live in Hespler now.)

Seek Members.

That new members will attend the annual meeting of the Acton Chamber of Commerce in February in the hope of outgoing president Paul Nielsen. Chamber directors held a meeting Tuesday evening at which they constituted themselves a nominating committee to fill executive offices and seats on the board of directors for 1965.

Membership in the Chamber of Commerce is not restricted to businessmen or industrialists, but is open to any man or woman in the district, stresses Mr. Nielsen. To expand its activities, the Chamber could benefit greatly from an infusion of community-minded new members.

New members may certainly be private citizens as well as merchants or representatives of industry.

The annual meeting and election of officers will be held February 11 at the Station Hotel. Everyone interested is invited to attend or contact Paul Nielsen for information. Chamber activities include the Twelfth Night community tree burning, Citizen of the Year dinner, urban-rural night, decoration of streets at Christmas, regular meeting and "boasting" of the town in any way possible.

Information is accumulated and supplied in reply to enquiries. Newcomers to town are welcome and invited to become members.

No Injury.

A car driven by Cornelius W. Vanderpolder of Acton, received \$300-damage Monday evening in a one-car accident on 22 Sideroad west of the Fourth Line. Esquering, O.P.P. report no injuries.

A junior boys' choir has been formed at the United church, under the direction of George Elliott. First practice was this week. Mr. Elliott also directs the junior girls' choir and senior choir.

Flames Leap High Over Roof But Firefighters Save Home

Acton's first fire this year left a fairly harmless, temporarily Saturday afternoon after firefighters fought the stubborn blaze for two hours before bringing it under control.

Below-zero weather hampered firefighters as water from nozzles froze over their clothing and wet around the building made walking treacherous. Only prompt action by firefighters saved the home from utter destruction after fire had started from faulty wiring in the attic.

Warred by Neighbors

Mr. McDowell, who was home with his two daughters, Kim, four and Karen, five, while his wife was on a shopping trip to Guelph, was unaware the fire had broken out until a next door neighbor, Mrs. Harry Harmsra, knocked on his door to tell him of the fire.

Mrs. Harmsra noticed snow on the roof melting as she looked out her kitchen window and worried at this happening in the extremely cold weather. When she noticed smoke as well she ran to the McDowell home and notified the occupants. The two children were dressed and taken to the Harmsra home and Mr. McDowell raced immediately upstairs and after discovering flames in the attic, phoned in the alarm.

Tries Garden Hose

His next move was to hook up the garden hose in an attempt to douse the fire, by this time the first of two fire trucks had arrived and firefighters were pumped water from a nearby hydrant. When firefighters arrived, flames were leaping over ten feet above the roof. As spectators began to gather many were of the opinion the building was doomed. A first firefighter thought the house would be lost, too.

Recently completing a course on firefighting techniques, Acton firefighters immediately covered furniture and household effects with tarpaulins in order to prevent water damage. This is credited with saving the homeowners' add-

itional expense as they did not carry insurance on contents.

Fire was contained to the attic and roof of the house as tons of water were poured on, both from inside and out, to douse the blaze.

Firefighters returned to the scene about an hour later after a minor blaze broke out again and had this out in a few minutes.

Fire Chief Mick Holmes himself returned alone twice after this on a call of neighbors who suspected steam rising from the still hot embers might be smoke.

Mrs. McDowell also had gone to Guelph shopping with her sister Mrs. Sam Finnie, was unaware of the fire at the time. The McDowell family moved out several pieces of furniture from the building and spent the night with the Finnies. They are now staying with Miss Florence Elliott and Tom Elliott on Church St. and repairs have been made on the gaping hole in the roof of their home.

Hugh Patterson Chairs Recreation Committee

Hugh Patterson was elected 1965 chairman of Acton Recreation Committee at a special meeting last Thursday at the community center. He succeeded John Gov, who took over the duties midway through 1964, following the resignation of Jack Buchanan.

J. Bert Wood was appointed vice-chairman of the committee and also heads the finance committee with Dr. Frank Oakes and Helen Otterbein.

Other committee appointments: Program—Gord James, chairman; Mrs. B. Keates, John Gov, Building—Claude Cook, chairman; Len Lovell, Ab Irwin.

Administration—J. B. Wood, Claude Cook, Gord James, John Gov and chairman Hugh Patterson.

New Ice Maker

The committee accepted the resignation of ice maker Bill Edithman with regret and appointed Frank Thompson to take over Mr. Edithman's duties. Mr. Thompson, previously engaged at an hourly rate, was switched to a weekly salary.

Jim Ralston was also engaged at a \$25 weekly salary to service and maintain the refrigeration equipment. He started Saturday, January 16.

Water Use Double

Members queried Mr. Ralston who was present on some of the problems encountered with refrigeration equipment. Mr. Ralston laid part of the blame for the exorbitant use of water—double last year's—on lime deposit on the coils. Mild weather in the early part of the season also contributed. It was agreed the machine must be cleaned and limes would be supplied to help Mr. Ralston.

Mr. Ralston will work with recreation director Harris Rose to set up their own schedule for running the refrigeration equipment. It must be checked once in every 12 hour period.

Fatal Run

Out for an early morning run a deer met its death when it collided with a car on the Seventh Line just north of Highway 7 on Thursday morning of last week. Milton O.P.P. said the car, driven by Hazel Irene Mickus of Georgetown, received \$150 damage.

Children's Aid Director Speaks

Paul Jullitte, Director of the Children's Aid Society of the County of Halton, was guest speaker at the Acton District High School this week.

Mr. Jullitte addressed the girls from grades 11, 12 and 13, who are taking the course in Child

Linda Braida, Sally Wilson Win Pairs Figure Skating

Among the winners at the Western Ontario Figure Skating Championships, held in Dundas last weekend were Sally Wilson and Linda Braida who teamed up to enter the Similar Pair and Similar Dance events.

Taking the title from Ann Schelter of Kitchener-Waterloo and Laurie Hoover of Burlington, Sally and Linda also edged out last year's runners-up in the same event, Lynne Mover and Margaret Sougwick of Woodstock. Over 150 competitors entered the event on Thursday, Friday and Saturday in the largest competitions held to date in this section of the Canadian Figure Skating Association.

Many Spectators

Sub-zero weather and hazardous driving conditions did not discourage the skating enthusiasts who were on hand from 6:00 a.m. until midnight to cheer for their club representatives.

Trophies were presented Saturday evening before a large crowd of spectators.

Sally holds the silver medal in dancing and expects to try her fourth test in figures and freestyle skating this season.

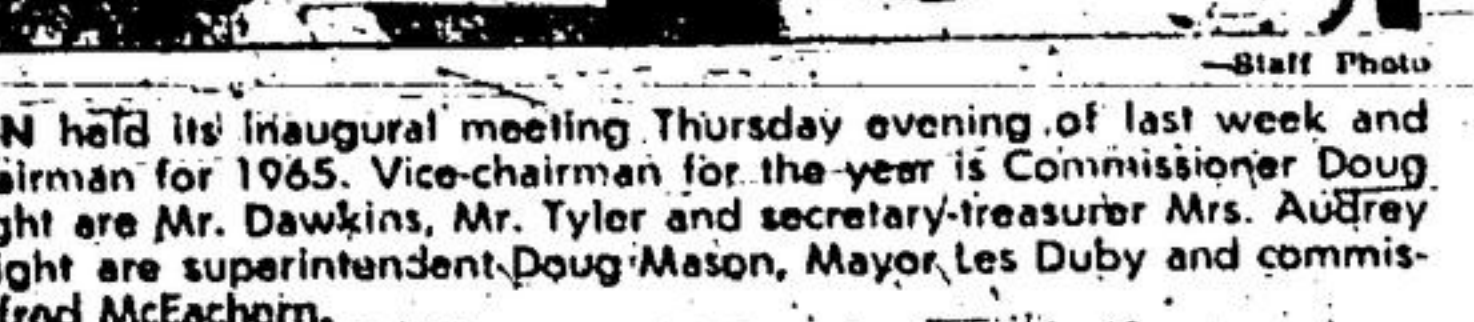
Linda has passed her Senior Silver Dance tests, and is a Gold Medalist in Figures and Freestyle. She instructs young Acton skaters each Saturday morning at the Community Centre.

This is the first time the two girls have teamed up to enter a competition and they were pleasantly surprised to learn that they had been successful in their first bid for the title.

Sally is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wilson and Linda is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Braida. They represented the Guelph Collegiate Figure Skating Club and both attend Acton District High School.



FIGURE SKATERS Sally Wilson and Linda Braida teamed up to win the Similar Pairs and Similar Dance events at Western Ontario Figure Skating Championships at Dundas last weekend.



ACTON HYDRO COMMISSION held its inaugural meeting Thursday evening of last week and E. G. Tyler was chosen as chairman for 1965. Vice-chairman for the year is Commissioner Doug Dawkins. Front row left to right are Mr. Dawkins, Mr. Tyler and secretary-treasurer Mrs. Audrey Urquhart. Back row left to right are superintendent Doug Mason, Mayor Les Duby and commissioners Orval Brown and Wilfred McEachern.