

The Acton Free Press

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The Future Home of Acton Citizens' Band



The outside of the fine new music centre in Warren Grove will soon be completed. Acton Citizens' Band is using accumulated savings, donations and much volunteer labor to completely enclose their band hall by fall.

Rees this week continued to finish the front of the hall. The unique plan of the building called for a smart design for the front; this was designed by bandmen themselves.

In Band Colors
The front entrance door will be to the right of centre of the front wall of the hall. The soaring centre portion will contain two tiers of high, narrow windows, separated by bands of wood and underlined by painted wooden panels. These panels will be grey on the level of the ground floor and red on the level of the second floor—the band's colors. The wood flanking the large window area on both sides will be painted white.

The attractive design has reminded some of the men of church design. It accentuates the height of the building.

Eaves will be painted red to outline the roof pitch.

On the outside wall to the left, the lettering "Acton Citizens' Band" and a painted Acton crest will be installed. Aldo Braida has undertaken the making and painting of the town's crest to add an accent to the decoration of the hall.

Immediately inside the entry, there will be a hall area with railings, directing visitors down one step to the floor level. On the right will be two wash rooms and coat room.

To the left will be a boiler room and kitchen eventually. Stairs will lead up to the balcony room on the second level, which will overlook the band practice area below.

Self-Supporting
When it's eventually completed, the building could prove very suitable for renting to groups for meetings, recitals, wedding receptions etc. Their aim is to have the building self-supporting financially.

They'd like to have it considered Acton's "music centre" for band concerts, piano recitals and

similar events. Its use would not be restricted to the Citizens' Band.

Young Park?

The beautiful wooded site naturally leads to plans for outdoor improvement. Intention is to have a lovely picnic area here. The land between the new band hall properly and the creek could be sold to the town, these far-seeing hands envisage, to make a splendid addition to the town's park program.

A band shell could be erected for outdoor concerts.

Lessons for learners—a time-consuming undertaking of the bandmen will be mastered to the band hall when the interior is prepared and heated. With its grant from the town, the band buys music, instruments and uniforms.

However, a band hall of their own has been a long time dream of bandmen, and enough money was saved to begin this year. Donations have helped and more donations would be most welcome.

Mail Services Back to Normal

No surplus rush of mail and no major headaches resulted at Acton Post Office following the return to work of striking postal workers.

The strike in most of the major mail centres in the nation (except Montreal) ended Tuesday afternoon and by 6:15 p.m. the same evening, the first truck load of mail had been sent from the local post office. At 12:10 a.m. Friday morning the first shipment arrived and postal workers were back in the normal routine that day.

Heavy Tuesday

Mail was the heaviest Tuesday since the strike but it is believed this occurred on account of the holiday Monday. The eight-day strike which paralyzed postal services in the nation didn't halt strictly local mail and Acton rural route services continued as usual except the mail and parcels boys and girls are coming out despite the temperature.

On the coolest days, water sale sessions in the arena replace the lessons in the pool.

Bad weather plagued the first series of lessons, too, in July.

Cool Weather Cuts Swimmers

Cool weather has cut attendance at the swimming lessons in the wading pool. Some of the youngsters who develop the "shiver" but some of the harder boys and girls are coming out despite the temperature.

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Corona Shoe Co. To Close Doors

Eugene Braida, president of Corona Shoe Co. Limited, has announced the decision of the Board of Directors to discontinue operations.

Started in 1953, the company pioneered the now popular ladies' snowboot and its products have sold across Canada and the United States.

Ray Arbie, company manager, advised that the trend in the Canadian Shoe Industry is to large units, many backed by American Corporations, permitting them to install automated equipment to mass produce lower priced lines. He does not feel that the future of the small independent business is assured.

Operations will continue for some time with limited staff to complete orders in process.

Will Study Applications At Public Hearings Monday

The Committee of Adjustment will air two applications at public hearings Monday in the Council Chambers. One from William McLeod will be heard at 5 p.m. and a second from Louis Bonnette will be heard at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. McLeod's application is for permission to erect an office building on property adjoining the former Bell Telephone building, which is owned by him. Residents within 200 feet of this property have been notified by letter and have been invited to attend the meeting. The property is next to the driveway—between Ledger's I.G.A. and Simpsons-Sears office.

Buy Farm
Murray McKindley of McKindley, Transport Limited Tuesday confirmed a rumor that the transport firm has purchased a large farm north of Milton.

Fire Fighters Get Drenched As Rain Cancels Competition

Competitions slated for Monday at the Fire Fighters' Convention at Ajax were cancelled due to pouring rain. In spite of the wet weather the planned monster parade was staged and delegates from many departments marched in the driving rain for over two miles. The marching was not judged.

All events which were postponed will be held Thanksgiving Day (October 11) at Ajax.

After weeks of intensive practice sessions the Acton Fire Fighters did not have the opportunity to vie for the trophies of cash

awards. Now they will resume practice in hopes of improving their times in the hose, ladder and running races.

Official Delegates
John Krappek and Ben Van Fleet were official delegates at the convention and were joined Monday by Fire Chief Mick Holmes, Don Van Fleet, Bert Fowler, Dorsen Truzzell, Bill Spichtogel, Phillip McCrystal, Herb Dadds, Harold Townsend, Jack Pink, Grant Withers, Lloyd McIntyre and Eddie McGiloway. Some families and friends attended as well.

When Acton Citizens' Band was not available for the parade competition the firefighters hired the Guelph Sea Cadet Band which led them in the parade, although the competition was cancelled because of the disappointing down-pour.

Milton's deputy fire chief George Bundy was elected first vice president of the Ontario Firefighters' Association after holding the office of second vice president last year. Another Milton Fire Fighter, Ivan Clarridge was re-elected as a director.

Playground Fun

Night's Sleep-Out in Park Christmas in August Planned

Playground leaders have been keeping a wary eye on the weather. Tonight is the time set for the playground's annual "sleep-out". The ten-year-olds and over have arranged to sleep around a big campfire and then spend the night in the park.

Playground leaders have another

New Clock For B. of M.

Visible all day the main business section of Acton, a large lighted clock was installed over the sidewalk from the front wall of the Bank of Montreal yesterday (Wednesday). The very plain lettering on the large white and green clock face is easily read.

The clock styled in imitation of the Bank of Montreal's familiar crest, is electric. If a power interruption puts its timing out, it can be corrected by using a device installed in the bank to speed up the mechanism until the correct time is reached. Workmen drilled through the front wall and reached the back of the bank inside by going through the bank ceiling.

Many Banks of Montreal have similar clocks which have become a standard point of recognition. The Acton bank's only identification before this has been flush to the building's front wall, making locating it more difficult. Now the clock will quickly attract attention.

51 Crashes

The Milton O.P.P. investigated 51 accidents in North Halton during July, in which 17 persons were injured and \$16,425 in property damages resulted. It brings the total for the first seven months of 1965 to 320 accidents with seven killed, 110 injured and \$167,920 in property loss.

or problem as well as weather. Recreation director Harris Rose, who was to have been the adult chaperone for the night, is ill at home and unable to croak with a sore throat.

All the playground leaders and even the swimming instructor are prepared to stay with their excited young charges for this special program. (They could sleep in the community centre if the cold drives them inside.)

The under 10s have a special day on Friday when, with jingle

Slow Week

Once again this is a slow week for news, with no meetings being held until next week.

However, council meets next Tuesday and members should be refreshed after their vacation and ready to delve into a full agenda of business. Thursday next week the Hydro Commission meets.

Bike Rodeo Winners Judged at Playground

Winners were declared in the big bike rodeo program at the playground last Friday afternoon. Winners were given points in both safety check and skill tests to determine the day's champions.

Following are the winners:
Senior — Bob Toth, Henry Tober and Chris Schuts, Pat Lynch, Bonnie Wood, Sharon Mellon.

Intermediate — John Pink, Kevin Evans, Cindy Barr, Marlene Edge, Janet Allan.

Junior — no boys, Emily Hodgson.

Best decorated bike — girl, Pat Lynch; boy, Romy Schuts.

Prizes for the bike rodeo were

balls and a decorated tree. "Christmas in August" transforms the theme.

Even Santa Claus is expected, by special arrangement with the North Pole. The youngsters will bring gifts (toys suggested) to exchange. It's also been suggested they bring pajamas and make the picture of the night before Christmas complete!

Believe it or not, the six week playground program is over on Thursday, Aug. 12. That evening there'll be a monster parade through town with the theme again this year "Pioneer Days".

Currently the leaders are seeking adults who will help them get picks for making ropes. Any volunteers for fun and a little work with the children?

An Indian village is planned for inside the park and of course the youngsters will make their own costumes.

Closing of the playground leaves three weeks of holidays for the leaders before school begins.

silver dollars, fifty cent pieces and quarters. (The money was raised in a penny sale earlier in the season.)

Boy and girl with the best decorated bikes were given suckers. Although the playground leaders had contacted the police and had hoped an officer would judge the tests, no policeman arrived so judging was done by leaders Cavell Marshall and Linda Ralston.

Creme paper was given out and the bikes decorated, paraded and judged by recreation director Harris Rose.

Between 75 and 100 boys and girls were entered in the special day's program.

Harness Maker 55 Years George Edwards 91 To-day

Time has not dulled the memory of one of Acton's staunchest citizens, George Edwards. Church St., who is celebrating his 91st birthday today (Thursday).

A former harness maker, who officially retired in 1963 the nonagenarian vividly recalls many incidents since he first started at his trade in Acton in 1910 when the horse dominated the roads.

Liked His Work
Bright and cheerful as he was always seen in his shop, Mr. Edwards would still like to take up the trade, again even though the horse has just given way to the mechanized age. If he had his way, he would be donning his favorite apron fondly handling his tools and repairing a piece of harness. It is not determination which keeps him from the trade but, as he wittily explains, "my daughter Lucy." Quips his daughter, "Too bad I'm the only child and some of the blame can't be spread among the other children!"

Bright as a dollar with a broad grin breaking over his face, to show his enjoyment of life, this week, the harness expert said he had worked at the Storey Glove shop before quitting to learn the harness trade at Port Huron, Michigan, after which he returned to Acton to first start in his own business. He also worked briefly at the Beardmore tannery.

Once King of Road

When the horse was "king of the Road" Mr. Edwards was in his glory. He was always willing to help out a farmer in a hurry for a minor repair to harness or make a new set for one of the more successful. With always a kind word to everyone, he was an idol of the young. Many kids visited his shop with a broken gun holster and eagerly climbed onto a bench to watch the adept craftsman make necessary repairs. The gleam in the youngster's eyes was sufficient payment for the harness maker who adorned children.

Life in the business was not dull for Mr. Edwards. He had many of the young ladies' woe to him as he sat near a window



GEORGE EDWARDS is celebrating his 91st birthday today (Thursday) as he looks back on his many experiences as a harness maker in Acton. He officially retired two years ago from his trade but still "has the itch" to get back into harness making and repairing. Mr. Edwards first began in business in 1910.

members. Top photo shows bandsman Bing Ramsden taking his turn at the saw as George Elliott holds a sheet of plywood steady. The men might not be union carpenters but strikes have not been the cause of any holdups in construction!

a family business in Acton for many years. Beside his daughter Lucy, Mr. Edwards has one granddaughter and one great-granddaughter living in Norval, and a sister Mrs. Nelson McLeod living at Cannington.

A brother-in-law H. Roy Burling of Kalamazoo, Michigan is a visitor during the summer months and never fails to call on the phone once or twice a month. He will be in Acton the end of the month to visit Mr. Edwards, as he is unable to make the trip for the birthday.

The nonagenarian still enjoys watching the odd wrestling match on television but not as often as he used to, since he retired early. Hockey was also one of his favorite sports but baseball was too slow a game for him, he says.

He enjoys visits from many of his former customers, but notes that only a few still remain. Since first starting up in business, Mr. Edwards has seen many changes in Acton. At one time he knew everyone in town and surrounding districts but many have passed on and the town expanded with new faces added.

Still anxious to keep abreast with the times he has his daughter Lucy read him the weekly issue of the Acton Free Press since his sight is not as keen as it used to be.

The Acton Free Press joins with his many friends and acquaintances in wishing one of Acton's most senior citizens a "Happy Birthday"!

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The application by Mr. Bonnette is for a land separation of a piece of property at the rear of his business and home on Main Street North in order to sell a portion of it to a neighbor, Joe Janear. Residents within a 200 foot radius have been invited to attend.

Buy Farm

Murray McKindley of McKindley, Transport Limited Tuesday confirmed a rumor that the transport firm has purchased a large farm north of Milton.



GREEN GRASS BY THE YARD has been laid along the new curbing beside the newly-widened highway at the eastern entrance to town. The top grade sod is grown west of Waterdown. Unrolling the lawn is Wilfred French of Milton Paving and Construction Co., watched by David Long of Waterdown Sod Supply. Both were contractors on the job.