

# The Acton Free Press

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## Committee to Reconsider New Building Variances

Acton's committee of adjustment heard two applications Monday afternoon in the council chambers and reserved its decision on one and approved the second.

The first application from William J. McLeod was for minor front, side and rear lot variances for a proposed office building fronting on Mill St. W. on land presently used as parking area behind the former Bell Telephone building at the corner of Main and Mill Streets. It met with objection from Dave Maney, representing the complainant, solicitor Aldo Branda told committee members Murray Smith and Ernie Marks (only two of

the three members present as G. W. McKenzie is on vacation) that adequate parking could not be provided to comply with the zoning by-law.

Mr. McLeod was of the opinion sufficient parking area could be obtained by utilizing angle parking. Mr. Maney stated the application which showed a proposed office building with apartments above, did not state how many parking areas would be provided. His solicitor told the committee if the variance was granted to allow the building, it would be poor planning for the town of Acton.

Charles Leatherland, solicitor for the applicant, asked Leo Riemer his opinion of the proposed building and was told it would be an asset to the area and in his estimation was well planned.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Marks agreed to withhold their decision until a later date when the other member, Mr. McKenzie, who was absent, could join them in a study of the application.

The second hearing of an application from L. Bonnet for severance of a portion of land at the rear of his property to Joe Jancair was granted after the committee was queried by two Lakeview residents, Elmer Girschow and he heard it was proposed, houses would be located there and wondered if the proposed purchaser intended to build on the land. He was told there had been no application for a building permit to date.

Chairman Murray Smith noted that an application for a building permit was not the business of his committee, they were to deal simply with a land severance. Mr. Smith stated that an application for a permit would have to go through the town office and the clerk would be responsible for making certain the plans complied with the zoning restrictions.

Bern Van Fleet asked if area residents would have an opportunity to object at the time in the event an unsuitable type of building was to be constructed which would not lend itself to present residential buildings. He was told they would have an opportunity to object at the time in the event an unsuitable type of building was to be constructed which would not lend itself to present residential buildings. He was told they would have an opportunity to object at the time in the event an unsuitable type of building was to be constructed which would not lend itself to present residential buildings.

Present were two of the three committee members, chairman Murray Smith and Ernie Marks, town office manager Joe Hurst, who acted as secretary, and about eight others, including three children who were interested in proceedings.

## Band Concert Enjoyed at Park

Another in the series of occasional band concerts given by Acton Citizens' Band was enjoyed Sunday evening. Just over a dozen handmen played in the lighted bandstand at the park gates. Bandmaster Alf Perrott led the group in a varied program ranging from hymns to marches.

Youngest listeners were waving and riding the roller coaster in the park. Others sat on benches and many remained inside their cars in the parking lot outside the park gates.

## Braves, Squaws Parade Tonight

The playground program climaxes tonight (Thursday) with an Indian parade through town to the park. The boys and girls, in heavy disguise as Indians, will meet at the station at 6:30 and parade at 7 to the beat of a drum. A playground float will be included.

Parents and everyone interested are invited for the program, which will include an Indian ceremony. Crafts will be displayed. A special attraction will be a clothing tree, draped with all the fine and unclaimed items of clothing.

There's no playground Friday. Dr. Gordon K. Askwith is the new director of the Hamilton County Children's Aid Society, replacing Paul Jolliffe who has resigned. He is living in Burlington and works from the Milton office.

## Two Sisters Meet Again Here For First Time in 17 Years

Two sisters, Mrs. Laurens Trissenaar, R.R. 1, Acton and Mrs. Joe Jonker, Ziest, Holland met each other for the first time in 17 years Thursday evening when an Air Canada plane rolled down the runway at Malton and came to a stop in front of one of the spectator's platforms.

The two sisters had little trouble recognizing each other after the lapse of time and after formal greetings were soon busy in conversation reliving the past 17 years.

**Last Baggage**  
Mr. and Mrs. Jonker left Holland by K.L.M. Thursday at 1 p.m. and after stopping over at New York to board a Canadian plane arrived at Malton by 8:30 p.m. It was after midnight when the Trissenaaers and Jonkers arrived in Acton. Three pieces of baggage owned by the Dutch travellers had been lost. All their clothing and gifts were in the bags and the only clothes they had were on their backs. The bags were not recovered until Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jonker travelled alone leaving their two children with relatives in Holland. They greeted the five Trissenaar children for the first time and were elated to learn Nettie had been chosen "Miss Acton Fair" last fall. The couple plan to spend three weeks in Canada and after 10 days will go to Breslau to visit with the two sisters' brother, John Bos.

**Shortage of Homes**  
In an interview with the Free Press, Mr. Jonker's, who is a carpenter with the town maintenance staff at Ziest, said there was an acute shortage of homes in Holland. Even though new homes are springing up all the time it seems impossible to keep up to the demand, he noted.

Laborers are quite plentiful but there is also plenty of work in Holland for all, according to the visitor.

Like Canada, Holland has received more than its share of rain this summer and like our weather it has been cold and wet so far this summer. Many of the field

**HEARTY APPETITES** were soon appeased by the chief chef Donna Landsborough Saturday morning after 45 youngsters in the playground program slept in the park under canvas. Donna and her helpers dished up porridge, cereal, bacon and eggs and glasses of orange juice for the hungry campers. Lower photo shows sisters Barbara and Brenda McNabb and cousins Pat and Janet Lasby enjoying their breakfast in the Community Centre.



## Further Progress on Centennial Library In Early September Promised by Mayor

An "all out" effort will be made early in September to wind up details for the proposed centennial library. Acton council received this word Tuesday night from Mayor Les Dubs, who is chairman of the centennial library committee.

This announcement was made after the mayor stated he had received a letter from the Centennial Project Committee of the Department of Tourism asking that approved plans of the project be submitted as soon as possible.

Council members strayed momentarily from a busy agenda to play a set of tennis — only one tennis court could be found. Deputy Reeve Roy Goodwin said he had enquiries regarding council establishing a tennis court in town. The former ones, now closed, are owned by Beardmore and Co. Ltd. and the property which housed bowling greens and tennis courts is up for sale.

Council expressed its concern over the lack of a tennis court but agreed it was probably a project for either Parks Board or the Recreation Committee.

A delegation from the tennis club has already approached the recreation committee, who agreed it was up to the parks board to locate a site.

Councillor Ray Arbie wondered about utilizing the Leshman parkland for this purpose as it was sitting vacant. Mayor Dubs thought a meeting should be set up with council, parks board and recreation committee members to investigate all possibilities of establishing a tennis court in town.

Mr. Arbie was of the opinion it was general lack of interest which was causing tennis courts to close in various places. He noted that Beardmore and Co. had provided the facilities in the past and assumed most of the costs. He believed it would be impractical for a small group to

maintain courts unless sufficient interest was shown.

**Patrol School**  
Mayor Dubs reported attending a recent school safety patrol training school, which four local public school boys attended. Principal Elmer Smith of the M. J. Bennett school also attended and both were much impressed with the project. Mr. Dubs noted the principal was quite enthusiastic about continuing the safety patrol in town as he felt it was very worthwhile.

Council approved hiring Mrs. M. Harrison as town office stenographer to replace Mrs. Mildred Turnbull, who is leaving to join her husband in Labrador. A letter of thanks is to be sent Mrs. Turnbull for her excellent work.

It was learned during the No. 2 committee report that engineers had been instructed to prepare costs for an extension to the present disposal plant, as well as costs for providing a new lagoon system.

Approval was given for the Duke of Devonshire Chapter 1.0 D.1 to hold tag days during the coming Fall Fair.

A special meeting of council has been scheduled for August 31 to review the high school by-law.

Regular accounts totalling \$19,875 were approved for payment as well as miscellaneous accounts totalling \$240.10.

**Sodding Charges Prompt Criticism by Councillors**  
The words of wisdom offered by the reeve in this case are not wise.

Properties where extra work had been done included Pete Papillon's, who insisted to Mr. Arbie he wanted to pay his share; Jules Trivier's, whose lawn was repaired due to a mist take by the workmen; Mrs. J. McCutcheon's and Johnny Melton's. It was reported the latter was unwilling to share in the cost.

**Daily Band Camp For New Players**  
Visitors to Rockwood Conservation Park this week have an added treat in store — they are being serenaded by intermediates and beginners from Acton Citizens' Band.

The young musicians are spending the week at the pavilion in the park, receiving instruction on the various band instruments from George Elliott. This is the second year the music camp has been held there.

All is not work for the musicians. Part of their travelling gear includes bathing trunks, chess boards and hiking shoes. At lunch time, it's a race for the chess board as everyone wants to join in the game. Swims in the cool, refreshing water and hikes through the caves are also enjoyed.

Taking part in the intermediate class in the morning are Steven Coles, Brian Sampson, Barry Buchanan, Jackie Holmes, John Reilly and Ron Ross. Beginners in the afternoon course include Jack Cooney, an adult newcomer to the band; Brendan Irwin, Jack Irwin, Colin Price, Garry Price, John Terpstra, Rod Gibbins, Bill Pendleton, Ricky Gordon, Teddy and Willy Muelbacher. Two senior members of the band, David Watson and Bob Hart, are also enjoying the outing and assisting Mr. Elliott.

**Finiah Friday**  
The wind-up Friday is expected to see both intermediates and beginners play a mass band for the first time before packing up gear for the final trip home.

Transportation is supplied daily by Mrs. Tom Watson, Robert Harb, Jack Cooney and Bill Buchanan.

## Blasting Complaints Aired Council Seeks Legal Advice

Blasting at Acton Limestone Quarries came under fire Tuesday night at council when three ratepayers appeared to complain of damage caused their homes. Council agreed to seek legal advice and request a meeting with quarry officials to discuss the problem.

Doug Dawkins, John Weldon and Charles Allan Jr. attended as a delegation to air their complaints. Mr. Dawkins was of the opinion the quarry could lighten the charges of each blast and get the same results without causing homeowners a great expense for repairs to homes. He noted several cracks have appeared in the walls of his home and recently while sitting in his kitchen when a blast shook his house, he saw a crack appear in the wall and plaster fall.

**Part Explanation**  
Mayor Les Dubs reviewed a visit to the quarry by members of council and some industrialists two years ago when it was believed the blasting might have some serious effect on buildings. He noted at that time, everyone explained to them outlining the little effect the blasting would have.

It was explained to the delegates that seismograph tests were taken the same day on certain buildings in town when a blast

was set off for the benefit of everyone present.

Mr. Dawkins opined "No doubt they set off a model blast for council at that time." He also said he wasn't attempting to interfere with the company's job but didn't think it was necessary to continue with the intensive blasting ratepayers had been subjected to recently.

**Inspected Damage**  
Reeve H. H. Hinton and councillor Ray Arbie stated they had visited Mr. Dawkins' home following a recent blast and witnessed the cracks in plaster. Mr. Arbie also stated they had visited a woman's home in Glenora after a blast and saw plaster lying on the floor and floor of a bed room.

Mr. Allen stated new cracks were appearing in his home in Glenora with every blast and noted that one homeowner had a large chunk of mortar knocked off the foundation of his house recently as a blast occurred. "The blasting is detrimental to homes and should be ceased off," Mr. Allen emphasized.

John Weldon noted plaster on the ceiling of one of his rooms was knocked off.

A letter was read from Ernest Parker, another Glenora resident, stating the blast, Monday, August 9, was the worst to date and a double diamond glass in a win-

dow of his home had been shattered and cracks opened up in plaster. He requested council investigate the problem.

**Track Complaints**  
Councillor Bill Williams stated he was lying on a couch Monday evening around 5:30 p.m. when a blast shook the piece of furniture and him. "Within a few minutes I had three phone calls from residents complaining," he stated.

Councillor Albert Irwin was of the opinion the quarry had done a lot of brasswashing in council two years ago before setting off the blast during the tour of the plant.

"They did agree the blast that day was lying on a couch Monday evening around 5:30 p.m. when a blast shook the piece of furniture and him. "Within a few minutes I had three phone calls from residents complaining," he stated.

After thanking the delegates for presenting their complaints, council agreed to take action through its solicitor.

## No Time for Sign

## New Addition, Increased Staff

After starting in 1958 as a part time one-man operation, Acton Box Company now is in full swing with six permanent employees and four casual workers hardly able to cope with orders.

Back in 1958, president Gordon Ralston, then employed at H. K. Porter Co., began operations in a small way himself in a driving shed at the rear of Anthony Sevruck's berrig off Wallace Avenue.

The building allowed him around 700 square feet of room. Later he employed a part time helper on evenings and Saturday mornings.

As orders began to increase and storage space was at a premium, Mr. Ralston moved his plant to an old garage owned by Neil Charrette on No. 25 highway and employed two men steady to operate equipment within the 1,600 square foot building.

After he purchased the former Acton Jersey Dairy building east of town on No. 7 highway the company moved for the second time with approximately 2,000 square feet of working space plus adequate storage area.

Work space was doubled by the end of June with a new addition and six permanent employees and four casual workers hired. At present there is still a shortage of space for storage of

raw materials as well as finished products.

When the company first began in 1958 only a waterproof export box was being made. Now crates, boxes for electrical appliances and freezers, pop boxes and much more are being made.

Even boxes for industry are being made for a local apary. Car steering wheels shipped to various car manufacturers may well be encased in skids made in Acton as well.

The company uses over 25,000 feet of either pine or spruce per week as well as over 1,000 sheets of 4 x 8 foot plywood and over 400 sheets of hardboard per month. At one time, Mr. Ralston paid a trucker to haul away scrap. Now, he is paid for all scrap materials and very little goes into the incinerator. Some of the scrap is purchased to make wooden heels for shoes while some is used by construction firms for making stakes.

An air-operated hammer saves a lot of manhours pounding nails. Where two men used to turn out about 35 crates per day using hand hammers and nails, the new equipment turns out over 240 crates per day operated by only one man.

When not on the road seeking new customers or calling on old ones, Mr. Ralston can be found either in the back shop helping assemble crates or in the front office sitting up new orders.

Trucks are constantly dropping off loads of lumber while others are piling completed crates for shipment.

There hasn't even been time to place a sign in front of the building depicting the place of business!

## Hamilton Shoe Receives Award

Hamilton Industrial Shoe Limited received advice this week from Mel Salzman, Director of Leather Industries of America, that it has been awarded the 1965 Shoe Design Award in the Work Boot Class for Canada.

The awards are sponsored yearly in Canada by the Canadian Tanners Association and are highly prized by the shoe manufacturers. There are comparable awards in the United States and they cover various categories from work boots to ladies' high style evening shoes.

Leather Industries of America is a combined association of Canadian and United States' tanners and is responsible for the promotion of leather footwear in North America. It has permanent offices in New York City.

The awards are made for the best contribution to good design, construction, style and workmanship, and are based on the recommendations of a cross section of leaders in the tanning and footwear industries.

Jos. Jancair, president and sole owner of Hamilton Shoe Limited will be asked to submit five additional designs for display at the Canadian Leather and Footwear Show in Montreal this October at which time the official presentation will be made to him.

## Two Brigades At Barn Fire

The barn at the former Harold Barber farm, R.R. 4, Acton (as the result of a legal entanglement owned by the government) was completely demolished by fire Tuesday afternoon. Cause of the blaze in the unused building is unknown.

Georgetown Fire Department received the first call although the farm is in the Acton Fire area. When the Georgetown firefighters arrived the roof and sides of the barn collapsed. Shortly after the Acton alarm sounded and on arrival of local firefighters the Georgetown crew left.

Farm property is rented from the government by H. R. Brown and sons but the barn was not used by them. Occupants of the farm are Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Laquart. There was no stock or feed in the building.

Acton firefighters remained at the scene until the smouldering embers could be doused.



**DUTCH CLOCK** brought from Holland is a prize possession of Mrs. Laurens Trissenaar, R.R. 3, Acton as it was sent to her by her father. Her sister, Mrs. Joe Jonker (right) of Ziest, Holland, brought the timepiece with her when she arrived with her husband last Thursday. The two sisters greeted each other for the first time in 17 years. The sisters admire the clock which was hung in the kitchen soon after it was unpacked.



**FOUR GENERATIONS**, Richard Earl, Robert Earl, Richard Robert and Richard Earl Marshall, attended the Marshall family picnic on Saturday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall 5r., R.R. 2, Acton. During the evening Earl Marshall was the recipient of a lovely chair from his family for his forthcoming birthday. Relatives from London, Toronto, St. Catharines, Brampton, Georgetown, Orton, Hillsburg and Acton attended.