

The Acton Free Press

Ninety-First Year—No. 27.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30th, 1965

Published for Record Club Ltd. by The Free Press Publishing Co., Ltd.

Eight Pages—Ten Cents.

Fatality, 17 Accidents Mar Christmas Weekend

A fatality, 15 injured motorists and 17 motor vehicle accidents in the North Halton area marred an otherwise happy Christmas weekend.

It was "business as usual" for Milton O.P.P. as rainy and snowy weather conditions brought slippery roads throughout the district. Majority of the holiday accidents happened on Highway 401.

Crime Weekend

The grim weekend began with a Thursday fatality — Halton County's 41st for 1965 — near Georgetown, where a car received \$100 damage. It was in a collision with an Acton man's car on the Havelock line just east of Bronte St on Thursday afternoon.

Tree Burning

Twelfth Night Christmas tree burning is set for next Tuesday evening, January 6. Again free coffee and doughnuts will be given out by the Chamber of Commerce as the hundreds of trees blaze in the meadows just north of the dump.

Yule Accident

Two Acton motorists were involved in a \$625 property damage accident on Highway 7 near the Halton-Wellington County Line, Christmas Day at 6:30 p.m. The cars were driven by Philip Gordon Wedge, 36 Main St. S., Acton, and Albert Ernest Cloutier, R.R. 1, Acton.

Mr. & Mrs. Harry MacLeod Mark 50th Anniversary

Wednesday, December 22, was a red letter day for Mr. and Mrs. Harry MacLeod of R.R. 1, Acton, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

A family dinner at Brookville Hall, followed by a dance with more than 125 attending, marked the occasion for the happy couple. Mr. and Mrs. MacLeod, the former Ethel Stewart, were married on December 22, 1915, in the Methodist Church manse in Acton.

Rev. H. W. Avison performed the ceremony and Anne Frank, a sister of the bride, was bridesmaid and William MacLeod, a brother of the groom, was best man.

After spending their honeymoon in Hamilton and Buffalo they lived in Hamilton for a short time and then returned to Nassagaweya where Harry worked in Sawyer's Mill. In 1920 they bought a farm on the townline between Nassagaweya and Esquesing and lived there for 16 years.

30 Descendants

Mr. and Mrs. MacLeod have farmed in the Acton area for most of their married life. They had nine children, seven of them living. Their children are Ethel and Mary, both deceased, Gerald of R.R. 3 Acton, Mervyn of R.R. 1, Acton, Ruby (Mrs. Ivan Arm-

Dr. C. A. Thompson Wins Top Seat

Dr. C. A. Thompson was elected to a vacant seat on Esquesing Township School Board on Thursday of last week with a plurality of 29 votes over all his three opponents when he pulled a total of 261 votes. Opponents included James Ismond with 96 votes, Julian Reed 79 and Andy Stull 57.

Poor weather hampered many voters from attending the polls as rain and ice made driving hazardous. Only 493 voters out of 4,175 who are eligible cast ballots in the second municipal election in three weeks.

Dr. Thompson is chief of staff at Georgetown hospital and lives on the eighth line of Esquesing



FUTURE ICE STARS take a keen interest in figure skating lessons. Left to right are Colleen De Bruyn, instructor Mrs. Glen Skuce, Brenda Donny, instructor Linda Braide and Jean Elliott. Members of the Acton Figure Skating Club were given ice time Monday afternoon and again today (Thursday) to make up for lost time during the regular period Saturday morning.

Appointments, Cemetery Plans Among Final Business Tuesday

Acton Council at its last meeting of the year Tuesday finalized some appointments to various boards and will complete the list the first of the year after new members have taken the oath of office.

Appointments made Tuesday included: Ray Arbo as the Acton District High School Board for a two year term, Fred New to the Library Board for a three year term, Murray Smith to the Committee of Adjustment for three years, Brendan Alcarne to the Parks Board to replace Keith Black for two years and Cliff Bradley to the Parks Board for a three year term; R. E. Parker to the Cemetery Plots Commission.

Christmas Eve Carol Service Draws Many to United Church

"A festival of lessons and carols for Christmas" has become a tradition at the United Church on Christmas Eve. Many white candles lit the church for the impressive service which began at 8 p.m. and was well attended.

The nine lessons were read by representatives of church groups. Mary Keates for the Explorers, Danny Allen for the Tiro boys, Kathy Cook for the C.G.I., Steve Garrett for the Sigma C, Roberta Sessell for the Young People, Mrs. F. Ludka for the United Church Women, Roy Knapp for the stewards, Charles Allen for the session and finally the Rev. Dwight Engel for the official board.

Active in Many Organizations Rae West is Widely Mourned

For the funeral service for C. Rae West on Friday, December 17, the Rumley-Shoemaker Funeral Home was completely filled, including the new addition and the upstairs. Special Legion and Masonic services had also been attended by unusually high numbers.

The well known merchant and active sportsman was taken ill suddenly while at work on Tuesday, December 14.

Son of Hazel and the late William West and husband of the late Velma Blair, Mr. West was born in Erasmus township and attended Greenock school. When he was about 11 years of age, the family moved to a farm north of Rockwood and from there he attended S.S. No. 10 Erasmus school and graduated from Rockwood high school.

On release from farm service under military curriculum, he came to Acton, was married to Velma Blair in April, 1944, and became apprenticed to V. B. Rumley. In July, 1947, he was graduated from Banting Institute School of Embalming.

In November, 1948, he and Miss Elma Brandt purchased the furniture business from Mr. Rumley and since then have carried on this business under the name of Acton Home Furnishings.

He was a member of Walker Lodge and had assumed the post of Junior Deacon in the annual elections just the day before his death. He was also a member of the Lodge of Perfection, Guelph and Ross Croix, Guelph.

Council Table Crowded New Members Observe

Acton council table Tuesday night was literally surrounded for the last meeting of the year when four new members of the town council observed their first of the year joined with 1965 councilors to become acquainted with procedure.

Joining with present members were deputy reeve-elect R. R. Parker and newly elected councilors Hamilton Peal, Earl Masada and C. J. Leatherland. Sitting in at their last meeting were retiring members Ray Arbo, Albert Irwin, Mrs. Doris Foxer and deputy reeve Roy Goodwin.

Mayor Les Dubs welcomed the new members and expressed sincere appreciation to retiring members for their excellent work during the past year. Verbal bouquets were handed out around the table to all retiring members as well as to the mayor and clerk administrator from retiring members.

Councillor Ray Arbo, chairman of the road committee, handed over a final outlining work which was not completed during 1965 and suggested the new council might give serious consideration to completion of these projects.

Unfinished Business
The road chairman stated several projects had been under consideration for this year but it had been impossible to complete anything. Among the unfinished business were completion of the Apex C.R. crossing, installation of the 12 inch watermain on Mill Street, a progressive type of sewer clearing program, graveling and grading of all road shoulders with a possibility of installing asphalt in these areas, asphalt of school walkways, repaving the sidewalk from Church Street to Apices street, installation of a sidewalk along Elizabeth Drive to Main St. S., a drainage improvement program along Peel and Arthur Streets, continuation of ditch work throughout Lakeview subdivision and consideration of rectifying a drainage problem along Maria Street.

Mr. Arbo also asked certain items for a retirement program for town workmen; there are a few who have served the town well and still are, but these men were reaching a retirement age and should be given some consideration.

He also recommended that the 1965 council give serious thought to having Mill St. W. completed to Cobble Hill Road and applying to have it incorporated as a connecting link on the county road system.

Many Meetings
Councillor Albert Irwin, also a member of the No. 2 committee and who is retiring this year said that in spite of having 78 meetings there still appeared to be a lot of work to do.

Both councillors Arbo and Irwin expressed their thanks to colleagues for cooperation and wished the new council every success. Deputy Reeve Goodwin said he had enjoyed his work at both local and county level and was sorry to leave. He said sometime he hoped to be back on council again and hoped he had used his experience well this year.

Mrs. Foxer, who is also leaving council this year, thanked members for their support and stated the past two years had been like a second education to her and wished everyone compliments of the season.

During enquiries by members, Mayor Les Dubs said he had received several complaints regarding garbage pickup, snowplowing and sanding as well as street lights being out for a couple of days. He told members that a few new problems had been created with completion of the Young-Queen highway widening. He noted that snow plows now pushed the snow back onto sidewalks and the only solution he could think of was for ratersavers to shovel walks off again.

He said there had been several complaints regarding sanding during the recent ice storm. He said it was impractical to sand streets when it was pouring rain as the sand only washed away and was wasted. He also suggested that if ratersavers had complaints regarding lighting problems they should be directed to the hydro office and likewise town problems should be handed to the town office.

"We are only too happy to give the people good service, but we must ask them to be a little patient," he stated.

Retired Merchant - E. E. Barr Dies Suddenly on Boxing Day

Ernest Edward Barr, better known to his many friends and neighbors as "Ernie," passed away suddenly Sunday, December 26, during a Christmas holiday visit with his son John, his wife and family in Toronto.

Even in death, his honesty and sincerity to mankind will long be remembered. It was always his desire and wish to help others and he willed his eyes to the Eye Bank and his remains to Toronto University for scientific purposes.

The retired grocers merchant, who made Acton his home for the past 35 years, was quite popular with the younger citizens as well as many older residents. The young, he lent wise bits of advice and many former Actonians who were fortunate enough to be employed by the late Mr. Barr as a Christmas holiday visit, traveler and businessman, are successful in the business world today.

While in the grocery business, which was located where Lovell's Meat Market is now, he was highly respected by fellow merchants for his tireless efforts to keep merchandising up-to-date and on a competitive basis with larger centres. While a business, he was popular as a diplomat and active worker in Minor Sports. He managed one of the champion ball teams.

It was through his efforts as a Legionnaire that the Remembrance Day windows in Acton Home Furnishings became a yearly tribute to the servicemen who gave their lives during wars. Branch 197, Royal Canadian Legion will miss the devoted comrade who was always willing to lend a helping hand on any occasion.

He was a member of Walker Lodge A.F. & A.M. and continued his membership in the Commercial Travellers Association until the time of his death. He was quite familiar in earlier days to merchants throughout the north country where he travelled for a dry goods firm.

Memorial services were held Tuesday evening by Royal Canadian Legion Branch 197 and Walker Lodge A.F. & A.M. and a public Memorial service on Wednesday at the Rumley-Shoemaker funeral home.

Prize Drivers
Corporal Ray Mason of the Acton O.P.P. Detachment this week praised the public for the care exercised during the Christmas holiday period in not mixing alcohol with their driving. There were no reportable accidents or arrests over the holiday weekend in Acton.

He and his constables are looking forward to the same excellent co-operation during the New Year's festivities.

Power Failure Christmas Day
A blanket of ice encrusted streets and cars early Friday evening as a steady rain gradually turned to sleet. Then as dawn broke the weather changed to snow and Acton and area had a white Christmas.

The ice storm, however, played havoc with many motorists and Department of Highways sanding and plowing crews were kept busy. Sand trucks were kept on the go during the night and in the morning snow plows were out clearing highways.

Town workmen spent most of Christmas day plowing and sanding streets. Many residents left their cars in the garage and walked rather than take a chance on the treacherous roads.

There were no accidents in town but several in the district. A portion of Nassagaweya Township was without power for most of Christmas day due to a power failure. Some went without the traditional turkey dinner; others had plunked the turkey in the oven early and heat was maintained sufficiently to cook the bird. Oven temperatures were maintained by intermittent power returns.

Acton hydro superintendent Doug Mason had a call from one township resident but the township hydro is serviced by Ontario Hydro in Guelph.



MR. AND MRS. HARRY MACLEOD celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, Wednesday evening, December 22, at Brookville Community Hall. The couple live on the MacLeod homestead at R.R. 1, Acton.



LODGE INSTALLATIONS at Walker Lodge A.F. & A.M. took place Monday evening for senior officers. Left to right are secretary Very Worshipful Brother H. L. Ritchie, Senior Deacon D. W. Van Fleet, Senior Warden E. G. Franklin, Worshipful Master T. S. Newton, treasurer W. Bro. R. H. Elliott, past master W. Bro. H. B. Ramsden, Junior Warden George Lee and installing officer W. Bro. C. D. Anderson.