

Red Cross Explains Procedure For Regular Blood Donor Clinic

While many people are familiar with the procedure of the Red Cross blood donor clinics, there are many who have not attended.

What Goes On?
A member of the executive has prepared an article outlining what goes on at the clinic, in an effort to stimulate interest among potential blood donors.

The next Acton blood donor clinic will be held Monday, March 21, at the Legion auditorium. The local clinic is being sponsored again by Branch 197, Acton, Royal Canadian Legion, with Vic Patrick and Mrs. William Finlay in charge. Residents will be called by telephone by members of local organizations in hopes of increasing the number of donors. This time as blood is urgently needed.

Clinic Hours
The clinic at the Acton clinic is in the afternoon from 2 p.m. to 4:45 p.m., and in the evening from 7 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. The Hamilton Red Cross Unit will again be here under the supervision of John Anderson, Area "C" supervisor.

The donor is asked to fill in a registration card. The Red Cross record if the person has given before, and classify that person as having given a previous donation of blood. That person will have been issued with an individual card which is called an "I" card or a donor card. The color of the card denotes the group of blood — blue for O, yellow for A, pink for B, and white for AB.

So each one carries this, or should carry it, and when they appear at the clinic, they should produce it. If they are in their group, the RH type, their name and address and a record of donations on the back. If they should have this card, the branch should have what is called a Master Card, similar in color to the "I" card, and the Master Card contains the same information with the addition of the number of the bottle of blood.

Past History
The donor will have his card withdrawn by a volunteer registrar from the file, it will be passed to the donor, the donor will go to the technician who will ask the series of questions concerning your health, such as "have you jaundice, malaria, have you been under a doctor's care, have you had any serious illness" and so on.

The technician then takes a drop of blood from the donor's finger and she does two things with this drop of blood. She has a white tile and she also has two bottles which contain antiser. One is yellowish and the other is greenish. This is dyed to avoid confusion. One is to determine the B's and A's, and the other is to determine the O's and the A's.

She puts a drop of each of these on the white tile and a drop of the blood out of this little pipette. She mixes them and by this means, she is able to make a rough determination of the blood group, either A, O, TB or B. But she is not able to determine the Rh factor. This must be done in the Red Cross depot.

Drops in Tube
Every bottle of blood that comes back to the depot is again grouped and typed every time a donation is made. If a person has given 50 times and comes along for the 51st time, they still group and type his blood for safety's sake. The rest of the blood in that pipette is dropped into a blue solution, which a donor will notice in the test tube on the technician's desk.

This is a copper sulphate solution. If the drop of blood sinks to the bottom, that donor is acceptable. If it goes a little way down and then comes back up again, she will put another drop into some fresh fluid and try it again. If it stays at the top, that donor is not acceptable. It's just simply that the haemoglobin level in the blood must be as high as 85 per cent.

Because the donor is not accepted through this test, does not mean that they are sick. It doesn't mean that they are going to a doctor to find out what is wrong with them, because it is not necessary for blood to have this high a percentage of haemoglobin for a person to be in good health, but this high rate is taken so there will be no risk in taking blood from any individual.

Women Often Low

There are some women with what is known as permanently low haemoglobin. If it's in the low percentage range, they are still healthy, they can still get around and do their daily chores and do not have to see a doctor as there is no real problem.

The copper sulphate solution is used for two purposes. One is because it gives a high reading and perhaps the most important, is that it is the only known solution allowing a haemoglobin test within a very few seconds.

If you have to get a regular haemoglobin test done, it would take anywhere between 20 minutes and half an hour.

Easily Traced
After the technician had determined the blood group, she will give the donor a label which is the same color as the card. It indicates the blood grouping as she has determined it. She passes one section of the label back to the donor, another to the registrar, a volunteer, who is filling out these registration sheets. These sheets are in duplicate. One goes to the branch and the other to the depot.

These include the serial number of the bottle, the group and type, the name and address and other relative information that is required for record purposes. This maintains a complete and permanent record of where the bottle of blood came from, so that should there be at any time any problems in hospital concerning a donation of blood, it can be traced back to the donor.

Every Donor Anonymous
No one knows just where that blood is or where it went to except the laboratory technicians who keep a permanent and complete record. The hospital doesn't know who gave the blood. All they have is a bottle number. The Red Cross branch know that Mrs. Jones gave bottle 2034 because the registration sheet is in the office.

But they don't know where that blood went to and they don't know who got it. This is one of the Red Cross principles to keep these as anonymous donors so no unscrupulous person can come along and say, "Look, my blood saved your life, how about it?" So it is better to remain anonymous.

No Contamination
Now having been passed by the technician, the donor is escorted by another volunteer into the collection area. This is the area that is restricted to staff and donors under the direction of a senior nurse. She uses a taking set to extract the bottle of blood. Every taking set that is used is a new set with new needles. Every precaution is taken to ensure no contamination reaches the blood.

The donor's arm is swabbed and the seal is removed from the needle, immediately inserted in the donor's arm. The bottle already has in it a solution. This is a sodium citrate dextrose solution and is referred to as ACD. The purpose of this is to prevent the blood from clotting. When the blood is released from the body, it will immediately start to clot.

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North Halton Music Festival is in Acton Robert Little school on April 5. A donation of \$10-\$60, given March 26 is Junior Farmer Drama Night at Milton at St. Paul's church.

Blood donations are badly needed. Let's try to make this the best year yet.

Lunch conveners were Mrs. Mary Graham, Mrs. Fred Anderson and Mrs. Jack Hardy. Mrs. George Fryer was courtesy convener.

The first two papers were taken by Mrs. D. Henderson and Mrs. Stanley Robinson.

All enjoyed a social hour after the service and a film on how some of the Day of Prayer money is used to help spread the Gospel.

A carload of ladies from Nasagaweya Presbyterian church attended the election and installation of the officers for the newly formed Presbyterian of Brampton at Nashville on Thursday.

If it clots in the bottle, then it cannot be transfused because it will not flow. It has been discovered that this sodium citrate dextrose solution will retain the blood in a fluid state. This is perfectly harmless to the recipient. In fact, it has dextrose in it so there is a food for the recipient in the blood in addition to that which is already contained.

Two-Thirds Pint Only
380 c.c. is taken, which is about two-thirds of a pint. It is actually an American pint. Then there is a pilot tube attached to the bottle containing ACD solution. This tube remains with the bottle, goes to the hospital, and the technicians in the hospital use the contents of this tube, which is the blood that is taken from the taking set.

When the needle is taken out of the arm, the blood that is still left in the tube is expressed into the pilot tube and into a test tube, which comes to the depot. It is dry — the blood clots in it.

It is for tests in the depot for grouping and Rh typing and serological testing to make sure that there is no communicable disease in the blood that may be transferred to the person who receives it!

Mrs. W. Denny Hostess to W.I.

Mrs. William Denny, Brock St., opened her home for the March meeting of the Acton W.I. The president, Mrs. Roy Lindsay, presided and opened the meeting with the Institute Ode and Mrs. Stewart Collect. The roll call was answered by what your grandfathers did.

Reports were given by conveners. Mrs. Mary Graham, agricultural convener, said Hon. W. A. Stewart announced that the Ontario Department of Agriculture will change its title to Department of Foods. Mrs. Graham also read the 10 Commandments of the Institute.

Mrs. Charles Cutts brought a little bit of spring by reading a poem on a garden. Mrs. R. L. Davidson, current events, gave the Halton Junior Farmers banquet. A cake contest staged by Mrs. G. Fryer was won by Mrs. Cutts and Mrs. William Evans.

A change in the meeting for April was announced. It will be held at Mrs. Campbell Winn's.

Mrs. Fryer, public relations convener, asked if Actonites are as proud of their town as they should be? Do you boast your town when talking about it to strangers? The image of a town is promoted more by resident boosters than by expensive advertising. You can either be a booster or a knocker.

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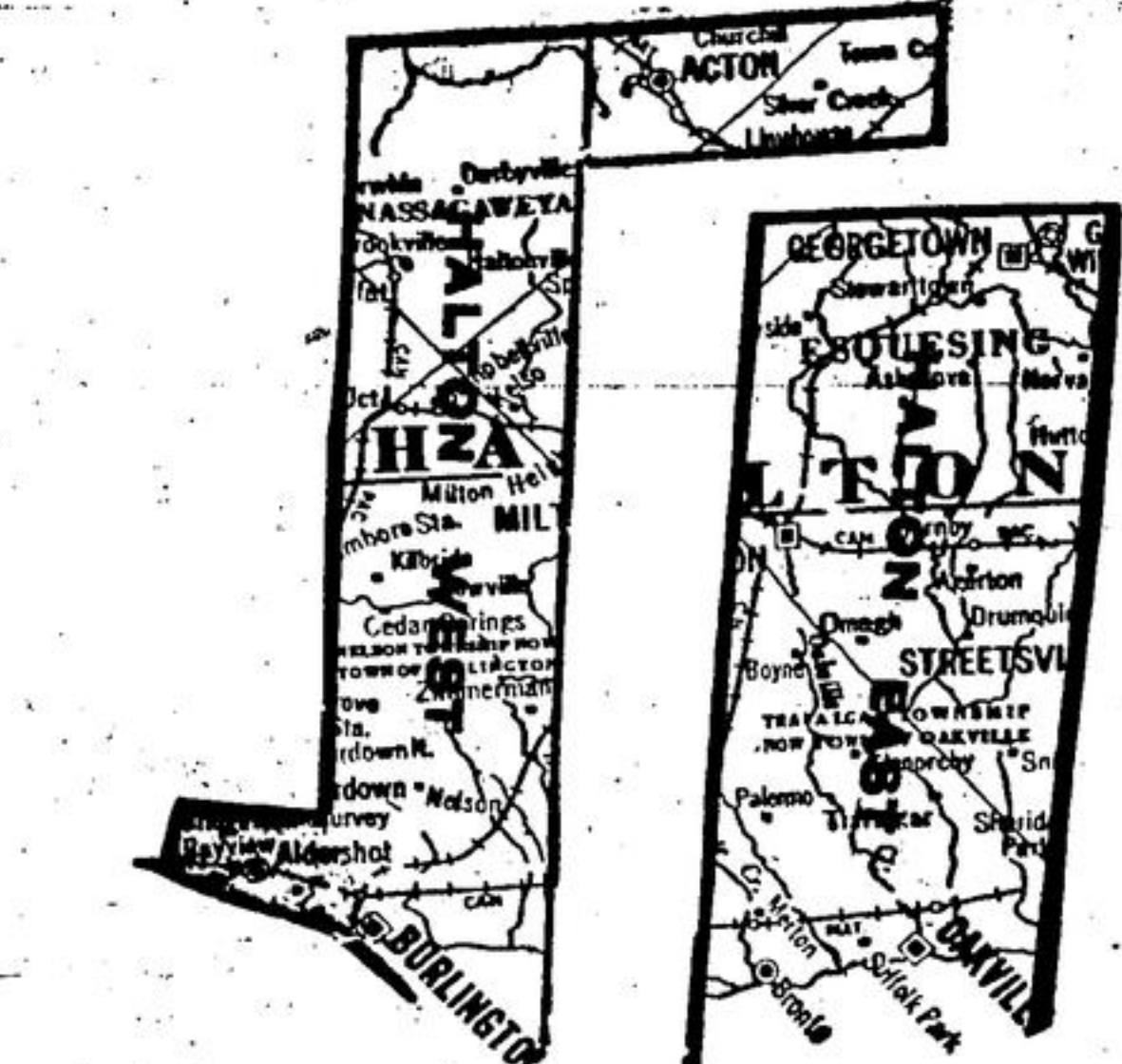
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PROVINCIAL REDISTRIBUTION of the present Halton County riding, as proposed by the special commission on redistribution, is shown in this two-part map. On the left is Halton West, which will include Burlington, Nasagaweya, Acton, and the northernmost 10 lots of Esquesing Township. On the right is the proposed Halton East, which includes Oakville, Milton, Georgetown and the northern 22 lots of Esquesing.

Irish Theme At W.I. Meeting

The sympathy of the community goes out to Mr. and Mrs. Willard Sanderson and family in the passing of the former's father, Mr. Walter Sanderson.

The Scout club held a euchre in Ballinafad Hall on Tuesday night when 16 tables played; high lady Miss Jackson; gent, Mr. Tom Hamilton; consolation, Mr. Ron Saunders.

Irish Theme
Mrs. Robert McEnery was hostess for the March meeting of the W.I. on Wednesday. The meeting opened with the Opening Ode, Mary Stewart Collect and the Hymn of All Nations, the president presiding. Roll call was answered by naming an export from Ireland. Several items of business followed the minutes.

A letter was read about the new little girl whom the W.I. have taken to sponsor, Conjoin Korea, as the one who had been sponsored had outgrown her age limit and a new one has been given us.

Mrs. Frank Smith gave the motto "Friendship is the only cement that will hold the world together."

Mrs. Jesse McEnery was program convener but owing to her mother having taken ill she was called to Guelph. In her absence Mrs. F. J. Shortill carried on very ably with the help of Mrs. Norman Sinclair.

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Original Sketch of Museum To Hang in County Building

The original sketch of Halton county museum which was reproduced on telephone directories, now attractively framed in black and gold, was presented by Bell Telephone district manager Arnold Blackford to museum board chairman Herbert Merry. The illustration was on the cover of the "Brampton - Georgetown - Milton - Orangeville" books.

It was a slide provided by Maj. Newman, which helped Montreal artist Albert Colletier—in his sketch, and Mr. Blackford gave the slide back to the museum director as he expressed his pleasure at presenting the picture to the board.

Expressing their thanks, board members agreed the sketch might hang in the administration building at Milton.

"After all," reasoned Mr. Merry, "people who are at the museum can see the museum itself!"

During the business meeting, Maj. Newman showed a sketch of a proposed centennial building to be built near the present museum at Kelso. Its main use would be the housing of large old vehicles and farm implements. Further discussion and plans will be forthcoming before decisions are made.

With the former pig pen on the museum property now converted into an attractive "craft house", Maj. Newman expressed his pleasure at being invited to attend a conference sponsored by the Department of Education on crafts, at Brantford, March 25 to 27. The Ontario Craft Foundation is keenly interested in craft centres for exhibition, work areas, and as teaching centres for districts.

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