

# The Acton Free Press

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## Library progress

Sidewalk superintendents are plentiful at the site of Acton's new Centennial Library as workmen continue with excellent progress. Few people pass without stopping to take a peek.

Footings have been poured and blocks are being laid this week. Work superintendent Dean Crowe stated Tuesday there might be a slight holdup with delivery of the brick.

Mr. Crowe had been informed at first the brick ordered was not in stock which meant a possible delay of three weeks for delivery.

However, on Tuesday he received confirmation the special brick could be shipped on notice.

The huge pile of earth from the excavation is providing an excellent bleacher for youngsters who climb up for a better view of the work underway.

## 25 accidents in July tally

Only 25 accidents — the lowest monthly total to date in 1966 — were investigated by Milton O.P.P. detachment during July. There were 14 persons injured and \$11,850 in property damage in the 25 accidents, and no fatalities.

January still ranks as the biggest accident month of the year, as 57 accidents were reported that month. The same month has the highest property damage toll to date this year, \$52,490.

To date in 1966 the O.P.P. have investigated 268 accidents in North Halton. There have been four persons killed, 100 injured, and \$13,270 in property damage in the seven months.

## Museum grows; add building for centennial

Three recent donations to Halton county museum have delighted director Maj. H. J. Newman. The three are from John Gamble, O.C., of Guelph and are on display now.

First is a huge bell, weighing a quarter of a ton, from the old Christie lime pits. It was rung to sound the hours of work and also as an alarm.

Next donation was a half-ton stone used for forming carriage wheels. It was used by Bob Menzies' blacksmith shop at Campbellville years ago.

Third was the old side hill plow used originally on the Alexander farm at Kelso, where the museum is now.

Attendance at the museum is up this year, Maj. Newman points out.

The agreement turning Richmond school over to the museum is now completed, and repairs there will begin. Meetings will be held in this attractive small school near the museum, no longer used in the area.

Plans for the centennial building at the museum are continuing, and it is expected tenders will be called very soon.



**FRENCH TO ENGLISH** is made much easier for Paul Youngblut as his French speaking pal Marcel Paquin, from Portneuf, near Quebec city, translates with a French to English dictionary. Marcel is winding up a two-week visit with Paul and his family on a student exchange basis.

Paul and his newly found friend recently returned here after Paul spent two weeks with the Paquin family. Left to right are Marcel, Mike Joe and Paul as they translate an all-French newspaper.

## Harness maker most of his life George Edwards 92 on Friday

A former harness maker who officially retired in 1963, jovial George Edwards is celebrating his 92nd birthday Friday. He started his trade in 1910 in Acton at the time horses dominated the road.

Time has not dulled the memory of the senior citizen who lives with his daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Walters on Church St. He still recalls many vivid memories of his experiences and enjoys joking about some of them.

Although he is in fair health he is unable to take walks to greet his many friends but he does enjoy a chat about old times. He recalls how he first worked at the former Storey Glove shop, before quitting to learn the harness making trade at Port Huron, Michigan. He then returned to Acton to set up shop.

When the horse was "king of the road" he was always ready and capable of handling anything from a minor repair to a major overhaul to keep the

farmer on the land. He especially liked children and many a time he received visits from tiny tykes to have a gun holster repaired or even just to watch the craftsman at work.

In 1958, when the horse began to take a back seat to the farm tractor and other mechanized equipment, George was he better known to his associates, decided to give up business in a big way. He set up a small shop at the rear of his daughter Lucy's home to while away the hours.

His final retirement didn't come until five years later. He was continually asked by farmers who hadn't given in to the mechanized equipment to repair harness.

Mr. Edwards was born in Woodville, Ontario, in 1874 but moved to Acton before the turn of the century. He married the former Minnie Statham on August 16, 1899. His wife's parents operated Statham's Bake Shop, a family business in Acton for many years. Besides his daughter Lucy, Mr. Edwards has one

sister Mrs. Nelson McLeod living at Cannington and a grand daughter and great granddaughter living at Norval.

A brother-in-law H. Roy Bunting of Kalamazoo, Michigan is a frequent visitor with Mr. Edwards and his family and expects to be in Acton for another visit soon.

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.

Although the former harness maker is reaching his 92nd birthday, no special celebration has been planned. He will welcome as many of his old cronies as can visit him, but in his quiet, unassuming manner, he doesn't believe in large celebrations and is content to accept another year without trills.

The Acton Free Press joins with his many friends in offering hearty congratulations to one of Acton's most senior citizens who has contributed so much toward goodwill and encouraged youngsters to take an interest in the meaning of friendship.

## Top trophy to Joe Petric

A first year camper, Joe Petric, Lake Ave., won Camp Breche's highest honor. He received the camp's top award, the cup for "outstanding camp merit", for the camping period from July 3 to July 15. He also won a crest for sportsmanship.

The 13-year-old camper is going into grade nine. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Petric, and he camped for the first time with the senior groups. There were about 180 at the camp near Rockwood.

The cup was donated by Rev. Joseph Ryan, bishop of the Hamilton diocese. This is the third time the cup has been won by an Acton boy. In 1964 Paul Braida, son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Braida, won it, and this year, despite his youth, he was accepted as a junior counselor at the camp because of his excellent record. Counsellor-in-training Peter Marzoo, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Marzoo, won the cup in 1965.

Another camper from Acton was Peter Arbie, who was with the juniors.

Joe keeps his award for a year before returning it for next year's competition.



**INTEGRATION MEANS NOTHING**, especially when it comes to dolls. Three prize winners with their dolls are shown after judging Friday at the park during the summer playground program special event day. Left to right are Trudy Toebes, who won third prize; Cindy McGilloway with her black-faced dolly which won first, and Emily Hodgson, second place winner.

## Re-engage architect to overhaul plans for proposed hydro building

Prospects of a proposed new hydro building on Alice Street increased considerably Thursday evening of last week when commissioners agreed to re-engage architect Donald Skinner to overhaul building plans with hopes of continuing with the project.

Original plans for the building were prepared by architect Don Skinner but when tenders were called they proved too high. Deletions were made and tenders called a second time. These were higher than the first.

After this, original plans were

s shelved temporarily and architect William Andrews of Sarnia was asked for his opinions on a new hydro building. To date no reply has been received from Mr. Andrews.

At last week's meeting, the commission decided to proceed with the project and agreed to recall architect Skinner with hopes of making further deletions in order to proceed with building plans.

At the brief meeting superintendent Doug Mason reported his department had completed installation of underground street lighting in Lakeview as

well as finishing the restringing of the main feeder line between Numbers One and Two substations along Church Street.

A special meeting has been called for tonight (Thursday) to discuss the future of the new building.

Present for the meeting were

Chairman Ted Tyler Sr., Vice-Chairman Doug Dawkins and Commissioners Orval Brown and Mayor Les Duby with secretary-treasurer Mrs. Audrey Urhart. Commissioner Wilf McEachern was unable to attend owing to the death of his brother-in-law.

## Safecrackers hit Campbellville P.O.

Safecrackers got little reward for their efforts when they broke into Campbellville Post Office early Thursday morning and "peeled" a door off the office safe. The invaders caused approximately \$1,000 damage to the safe and the building, but got only \$130 — most of it in stamps — from the safe.

Milton O.P.P. report the break-in was obviously the work of amateurs and they are following all possible clues in an attempt to apprehend the safecrackers.

Supervising Postmaster Walter Bell of Milton said the thieves damaged more than they stole. Police indicated the break-in was through both a door and a window, although it was earlier thought the thieves gained entry through a rear window and broke out a rear door.

The safe was tipped over on its back and the large

front door was "peeled" back with a crowbar, sledge hammer and hacksaw. The thieves were thwarted in their attempt to pry open an inner door to a compartment housing more valuable items.

Const. Dave Hardy, who with Cpl. J. Parkinson is investigating for Milton O.P.P., said it would have taken three men to tip the heavy safe over. After the break-in was discovered by village Postmaster Doug Agnew Thursday morning, four men attempted to put the safe back on its legs, and couldn't.

Const. Hardy said damage to the door, window and safe would total \$1,000.

Mr. Agnew said mail service was only slightly delayed by the robbery. Among the items stolen was the postmaster's personal stamp which was of no value to anyone outside the office. Some mail was ransacked but no mail appeared to be stolen.

## French speaking youth visits at home with exchange student

Marcel Paquin, a grade 10 student from Portneuf, near Quebec City, is winding up a two week visit, his first out of the Province of Quebec, on a student exchange basis as a guest of Paul Youngblut and his parents on Maria St.

The young French-speaking youth likes Ontario very much and is quite happy in the English-speaking environment. Two weeks prior to his coming to Acton, Paul Youngblut paid a visit to the Paquin home near Quebec City.

The exchange program has been in operation for some time and this summer, many students from Ontario and Quebec exchanged visits and as a result, gained a new insight into the lives of each other. The barrier of a different language proves to be a very minor one.

Marcel, who hails from a family of five sisters and two brothers, has a little difficulty with the English language but if asked a question by a person speaking slowly and clearly, the French youth can reply.

He is an avid sportsman and plays hockey and baseball, as well as swimming and badminton. Like most boys, he likes to eat and enjoy life.

Since coming to Acton, he has journeyed with the Youngblut family to their cottage, visited Niagara Falls and toured throughout Ontario.

He finds little difference here outside of the language and feels his visit here has been a worthwhile venture.

Paul Youngblut, who spent two weeks with the Paquin family, found it difficult for the first two or three days with his French, but with the help of Marcel and two of his sisters who speak some English, he got by quite well.

One of the major differences for the Acton youth in Quebec was the freedom youngsters enjoyed. He noted children were left quite on their own and their parents expected them to behave.

He also marvelled at the freedom youngsters enjoyed riding bicycles. Common safety rules of the road practised in Ontario did not seem to apply.

The Paquin family was very friendly toward Paul and were of great assistance with the different customs. It was his second trip to Quebec City. The first time, he visited with his parents during a motor trip.

This Saturday, Marcel leaves by train from Guelph for his home. He has made friends here and although he has enjoyed his visit, he is looking forward to getting home again.

The student exchange is sponsored by the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews. The idea of the exchange is to help people from the various parts of our nation understand their distant neighbors.

## Join CORDA

The first firm in this region to join the Central Ontario Regional Development Council corporate membership section is Dills Printing and Publishing Company Ltd.

## Jail escapee in U.S. jail

The man who escaped from Halton County Jail in Milton earlier this year probably won't be back to face trial here, it was learned this week.

Paul Roanm Beaulieu of Carleton Place, who cut the cell bars and fled to local jail, has been captured in United States but has been sentenced to 10 years in a Washington prison for a number of break-ins and entering charges laid by U.S. police.

## Derry Day parade

Nonagenarian Charles Kelly Brown, prominent Orangeman, is looking forward to the annual Derry Day Parade at Owen Sound, Saturday, August 13.

The 96-year-old Acton businessman has never missed taking part in a Derry Day Parade since he was 12 years of age with the exception of the year he was too sick to attend. It is expected he will ride in a car during the parade.

## Bill Nelles to be home soon after close brush with death

William (Bill) Nelles, who risked his life to save fellow tannery worker Eldon Rawding Monday of last week, is progressing favorably in Guelph General Hospital and is expected to return home in a week or two.

The worker he is credited with saving the life of, Eldon Rawding, was discharged from hospital last weekend. Mr. Rawding fell into a large tanning drum in the chrome department and was overcome by carbon dioxide fumes caused by tanning chromates in the tanning process.

After other workers at the site failed to reach the stricken man due to ladders, Mr. Nelles went down a ladder and tied a rope around Mr. Rawding before he too was overcome by fumes. Through these efforts and the help of other workmen Mr. Rawding was hauled from the drum. Mr. Nelles was also removed. Both men were given

oxygen by Acton firefighters and attended to by Dr. David van der Bent before being taken to hospital by ambulance.

First reports stated Mr. Nelles was suffering serious eye injury but Tuesday of this week his mother, Mrs. Cecil Nelles reported he was progressing favorably and expected to be home soon. He will possibly have to wear stronger glasses in the future.

When hauled from the drum both men were unconscious but at first no pulse could be detected on Mr. Nelles, until heart massage was given by tannery worker and firefighter Norman Price.

Plant first aid supervisor Theo Papillon applied mouth to mouth resuscitation to Mr. Rawding to revive him. Everyone who figured in the dramatic rescue has been praised by both men's families as well as tannery officials and Dr. van der Bent.

## Plan circus in arena for playground program

Acton's playground program is providing plenty of excitement for youngsters again this summer. Before the program ends the youngsters can be assured of no dull moments.

Tuesday evening of last week, 65 kiddies enjoyed the annual sleepout under canvases in the park. Playground leaders and chaperone John Leatherland had their hands full looking after the small gang of excited youngsters.

Everyone crowded into 14 tents for a night's sleep after enjoying a campfire complete with hot dogs, pop and toasted marshmallows. In the morning, the early risers packed their gear and headed for home for a hearty breakfast. Leaders stayed behind to take down tents and pack away equipment.

Today, (Thursday) close to 100 are enjoying an afternoon and evening at Rockwood Conservation Park where they travelled by T-ler bus.

The big event everyone is looking forward to is the Playground Circus to be held in the arena Thursday night, August 11. The touring circus will feature plenty of entertainment from games and competitions to performing animals and perhaps a magician. Parents and friends will be welcome to attend.

Every Friday a special event day is planned and last week kiddies trundled to the park with their dogs. Some had ribbons attached to the collars and others were held back by not one but two young handlers.



**OKAY JUDGES!** Let's get on with the contest! Seems to be the expression of thought registered on the faces of two brothers and their pet dog as they wait for playground leaders to judge the dog contest held last Friday. Jeff and Doug Cooper ended up with a first place ribbon when their pet "Hockey" copped the prize for the animal with the most original name. Fortunately, in spite of the many dogs, large and small in the show, no fights broke out among the animals.