

The Acton Free Press

Ninety-Second Year—No. 26.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1966

Ten Pages—Ten Cents.

Midnight whistle heralds centennial

Centennial year will enter in all across Canada to the sound of whistles and bells, and Acton will join the rest of the land in an audible beginning to our 100th birthday.

Boardmore and Company's familiar whistle will sound at midnight as December 31, 1966, turns into January 1, 1967.

It's also hoped that some of the church bells here will ring at the same time. Plans are not finalized.

The fire sirens will not sound—unless there is a fire. The emergency measures sirens will not sound, either.

There are dances at the Legion hall and band hall, and there will be many house parties as well where the new year will be welcomed in.

Focus of Acton's centennial celebrations is split. The opening of the new library, probably in February, will be the first part. Much favorable comment has been received on the ambitious project.

Second will be the gala fair weekend, when all the regular activities of the fair will be expanded to include everyone in centennial celebrations.

Very few groups have announced their special plans for centennial year. The Guides were the first.

A centennial committee has been formed and its members are prepared to co-ordinate plans made by town and district groups, and to give assistance if it is required. The committee has held several meetings, with most interest generated from the fair board.

Top town concerns which join the centennial roster are a new dump site, opening of the new hydro building, possibility of a day nursery, M. Z. Bennett school expansion, development of Glenelk park area, installation of Mill-Main lights, dredging of Fairy Lake, and possibly even a start on a drive for a swimming pool.

No word from Authority on dredging of Fairy Lake

Acton council Tuesday night learned that although enlarging of the storage capacity of Fairy Lake has been approved, no official word from the Credit Valley Conservation Authority has been received. Acton's representative on the Authority and chairman of the flood control advisory board, deputy-reeve R. R. Parker was not at the meeting.

Last week's issue of the Acton Free Press reported a phone call from M.P.P. George Kerr announcing government approval of the project, which is estimated to cost in the neighborhood of \$198,000. Of this amount the government pays 75 per cent or \$148,500 with the C.V.C.A. looking after payment of the balance.

It is not known at this time whether the town will be asked to share 15 per cent of the balance owing and the Authority the remaining 10 per cent or whether the remaining 25 per cent will be shared by other municipalities within the watershed.

Plans call for dredging the lake to remove silt and aquatic weeds which have been recognized as dense in some places.

With increased storage capacity in Fairy Lake there will be sufficient water to augment the stream flow in Black Creek, particularly during the low flow period in the summer months.

Council also approved a Credit Valley Conservation Authority plan to build a large reservoir and dam at Orangeville which is not expected to increase the present Acton levy to the Authority. The project is expected to cost over a million dollars, of which the government pays 75 per cent. This project is one of many planned by the Authority. Acton's share will be \$1,349 in 1967 and the following three years annual payments are expected to be \$1,380, all of which are within the present levy.

Headed by councillor Drinkwater, members expressed their thanks to Mr. Parker for his work on the Fairy Lake project. It was agreed a letter of appreciation would be sent to him.

He has been re-appointed to the position as Acton's representative.

Bid farewell to minister

Members of the congregation of the Christian Reformed Church will bid farewell to their minister, the Rev. W. van Dijk, at a social period following the Sunday afternoon church service. The family expects to move to Orillia some time next week.

Police report sole accident

Only one accident marred an otherwise trouble-free Christmas for the Acton O.P.P. Detachment this season.

On Friday evening, Constable Bruce Kressler investigated a three-car crash on Mill St. E., when an estimated total damage of \$775 resulted.

A westbound car on Mill St., driven by Charles Spires, Main St. S., was in collision with two parked cars in front of E. T. Marks grocery store. The first vehicle to be struck was driven by Archibald H. Harkins of 57 Lakeshore Rd. E., Port Credit. This vehicle was driven ahead into a parked car driven by Walter E. Sca, 133 Crescent Avenue, Acton.

The Chorallers made their first public appearance just about a year ago.



TWO HAPPY CHILDREN express appreciation to Santa Claus after he handed out gifts at the firefighters' Christmas party recently. Julie Townsley and Johnny Pink took time out for their thanks before opening their presents.

Who will be 1967 Warden?

Three men candidates for job

The Centennial year warden of Halton County will be the busiest ever, says former warden Herbert Merry of Oakville. But no one is sure just who will get the job.

Reeve William Coulter of Nassagaweya Township and Reeve Austan Ledwith of Milton have definitely declared they will seek the position, when County Council holds its inaugural meeting of the new year on Tuesday, January 10.

A third possible candidate, Reeve William Hunter of Georgetown, declared "no comment" when contacted by this paper last week. However, he was named as a likely candidate by several councillors.

The following is the result of the survey.

Reeve Ledwith of Milton said, "I'll let my name stand, I'm willing to run for the position." He spoke out in favor of the rotary system of declaring the warden, but indicated, "even if it's a person's turn he should refuse to take the job if he can't handle it."

Reeve Gordon Gallagher of Burlington indicated, "I've got nothing to say at this time. I don't think there should be public politicking for the job and I firmly believe the position should be rotated around the county."

Reeve William Coulter noted, "I'm going to stand, it is Nassagaweya's year. The last warden from Nassagaweya was John A. Milne in 1959."

Reeve Herbert Merry of Oakville, Warden in 1965, said he had considered running again for the job until two weeks ago, when he learned that both Reeve Coulter of Nassagaweya and Reeve Hunter of Georgetown would be able to devote full time to the job. "I believe next year's warden will have a full time job, the biggest job of any warden in the history of the county," he said.

The 1966 warden, Reeve H. Hinton of Acton, said "in my position, I can't make any comment at all." He said he definitely would not consider running again, "it wouldn't be fair," he noted.

Reeve George Leslie of Esqueving said, "that'll look after itself."

Deputy-reeve Charles Menefy of Milton said, "I have no comments at this time, I'm sure I don't know who will be warden."

New council members observe as 1966 business finalized

Three newly-elected council members were initiated into routine procedure Tuesday evening when the 1966 council conducted its last meeting for the year. G. W. McKee, Charles Perry and Ted Tyler Jr. were on hand to observe and become acquainted with routine.

Mayor Les Doby welcomed the new members who will be sworn into office at the inaugural meeting Tuesday, January 3. While inviting them to sit around the council table and follow proceedings, the mayor reminded the members they would be unable to enter discussions but could ask questions at any time.

The dog problem popped up again when it was noted one ratepayer had given the dog control officer trouble when he was investigating complaints from neighbors. It was agreed the officer was empowered to lay charges at any time and would receive council support.

It was learned the ratepayer in question had several dogs running at large and when queried by the dog control officer became quite abusive and let dogs already picked up out of the vehicle used for dog control.

Clerk-Administrator Jack McGeachie informed council the Department of Planning had rejected one portion of a two-part amendment to the official plan of Acton. He noted the first part dealing with "Home Occupation" which permits certain types of business to be operated from a home had been approved but an application from Jake van der Kooy to change his property from residential to commercial to conduct an electrical business from his home, had been turned down for lack of valid reasons why the change should be allowed.

Reeve H. H. Hinton was of the opinion council should re-apply for the minor change and delete the van der Kooy application.

Councillor Robert Drinkwater remarked "Apparently we have no choice but to accept the reply but I believe this is the first step as a result of the Plunkett Report in restricted development of Acton."

Yule trees beacon fire

Date of the town's annual big blaze is set for Thursday, January 5. All the Christmas trees will be set afire at once to light up the sky in a kind of centennial welcome beacon. As announced by the town office in an advertisement, trees will be picked up on Wednesday.

Georgetown criticizes Halton nurse committee

"They've been listening to second hand information," Deputy-reeve Frank Rogers of Burlington charged, when he and other members of Halton County Council last week answered criticism levelled by Georgetown Council.

A motion was passed by Georgetown Council condemning the "Warden's Special Committee" for its handling of dealings with Halton's nurses. The motion was read at County Council on Tuesday of last week.

Deputy-reeve James Young of Georgetown agreed with it, and said "the Warden's Special Committee was more or less nothing more than a clique to get the nurses back to work." Warden Hinton refuted Deputy-reeve Young's statements by charging, "you show a complete lack of understanding of the situation." He said a reference to him assuming the chairmanship over someone

else was entirely incorrect, and noted that a motion in council had long since done away with the Warden's Special Committee. He said statements by Georgetown council were "based on anything but the facts."

Deputy-reeve Charles Menefy of Milton said he objected to Mr. Young's use of the word "clique." "That was rather an unfair thing to say," he noted. He said he was in full agreement with the intent of the motion from Georgetown Council, "but there never was a clique or anything like that. There was no question of gang-ing up on anyone."

Warden Hinton said, "I think a recommendation of this type from the municipality is in very poor taste — indeed gross interference with the business of county council."

A number of residents have already taken down their Christmas trees and tossed them outside.

The reeve took exception to the reference to the Plunkett Report as he remarked "This has nothing to do with Plunkett restrictions. When we start to spot zone, they are critical."

Councillor C. F. Leatherland was of the opinion the "powers that be" at Toronto were trying to restrict and prohibit future development of this area.

Mayor Doby claimed the reeve had put the subject out of context by saying council was trying to spot zone. "We are simply trying to accommodate a ratepayer after he had made a request for a zoning change," he remarked.

Mr. Hinton noted the area under question is presently residential and no other commercial business operates in this section. He also pointed out the library had been erected in the vicinity of the van der Kooy property and this should

be protected. He remarked "What's to say the man will remain in town and then the area is still zoned commercial." He also claimed the van der Kooy home could be torn down and any type of commercial building erected.

Councillor Drinkwater informed council Planning Board had taken a good look at the area in question after being requested to re-zone and found several commercial business places within a block of the van der Kooy property. He

also pointed out that during a public hearing on the application three residents in the area had attended the meeting and supported the application.

The reeve insisted council should delete the van der Kooy problem from its application to the Department of Planning, in order to proceed with the

(Continued on Page 8)

Boy receives broken arm two toboggan under car

One youngster, Arnold Gordon, had the bone in one arm broken through and suffered cuts and bruises and his chum Keith Croskin suffered bruises and cuts when they rode underneath a car Tuesday morning while tobogganing.

Driver of the vehicle, Mrs. Joe Jocke, told Corporal Ray Mason of the Acton O.P.P. she was driving east on Mill St. W., and had just passed Lakeview Greenhouse, when she noticed the two youngsters coming down a hill on the south side and heading for the road.

She applied the brakes and after the car stopped, she got out and found the two under the vehicle. She ran back to Lakeview Greenhouse and got George Musselle. When they arrived back at the car, the Croskin boy had crawled out and was in the back seat. The Gordon boy was still under the car.

Both were rushed to the Medical Centre and were treated by Dr. Van der Bent and sent to Guelph General Hospital. The Gordon boy is expected

to remain in hospital for a few days but the Croskin youngster was allowed to return home.

Keith, 9, is the son of Mrs. June Croskin, Cameron Street and Arnold, 8, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gordon, Mill St. W.

No lineups new plates

Motorists can keep in style for Centennial year by shopping now and procuring their 1967 license plates. The new markers are blue with white letters and in place of a dot between numbers there is a crown. Numbers 1667-1967 and the word "confederation" clearly mark the centennial year.

Local issuer Jack Hargrave advised this week that motorists avoid the rush before the deadline February 28 and shop now. He hasn't been too busy at present but this can change and lineups appear.

First hydro meeting held in new building

Acton Hydro Commission members met for the last time in the Elgin Street office and for the first time in the new building on Alce Street. All in the same night — Thursday of last week.

The meeting started as usual at the old office and after minutes and correspondence were read and dealt with, everyone adjourned for a tour of inspection of the new building. Business was completed there and the secretary-treasurer Mrs. Audrey Urquhart was instructed to write Morris VanGils, owner of the former office, a

letter notifying him they would vacate their premises January 31.

She was also instructed to have office equipment ready for moving to the new location by Wednesday, December 28.

Prices were to be obtained for drapes for office windows. Accounts totalling \$34,065.07 were approved for payment.

The secretary was instructed to make the second progress payment amounting to \$27,184.70 to Whitney Construction for construction on the new building.



TAKING PART in the impressive carol and candlelighting service at St. Alban's church before Christmas were left to right, choir member Rosalind Hall, server Jim Fritzmil, server Frank Buscherner and choir member Kathy Hinton.

New Year Greetings