

Firefighters' party delights 70 children in fire hall

Delighted children received big boxes of gifts from an electrically induced Santa at the firefighters' Christmas party in the fire hall Sunday afternoon, Dec. 18. Firefighters brought wives and children for the afternoon making an attendance of about 100, 70 of them children.

John Krapak was chairman of the committee, assisted by

Bill Spielvogel and Harold Manes. Cookies, candy, doughnuts, chocolate milk and coffee were enjoyed.

Santa Claus, who gave a bright performance, was faced with a problem just as he was getting dressed for his role. A hydro consumer called about her electrical service.

She must have thought her lines were really crossed when she got Santa instead of superintendent Doug Mason on the phone.

She laughed when she heard the reason he couldn't come right away, and said she could wait. Her minor repair was done after Santa left the fire hall about an hour later.

Y's Men's party in new music centre

The Y's Men's Club's Christmas party on December 16 in the Music Centre was termed "one of the best ever". About 50 members and their guests enjoyed the evening together.

A delicious buffet supper was enjoyed, and an orchestra played for dancing. Gifts were brought for the needy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE QUARRIES' SIDE OF THE STORY

Dear Sir:

It would seem that quarry operators are fair game these days for the speech-makers and those who write letters to the press. In your December 14 issue there was such a letter from Wilf Fortowsky. He told how little was left for the municipality from the taxes paid by the quarries, after the county took about 10 per cent and the school requirements were met.

He said he had visited Esquimes Township offices to get some facts. Then he talked about the damage done to roads by the heavy trucks that haul the stone from the quarries and the cost of maintaining these roads. He talked of damage done to homes because of quarry blasting, of dried up wells, and dusty roads.

Whether tax money is used to support schools or goes to the County has no bearing on the amount a quarry should pay as an individual taxpayer. If there is not enough money left to run a municipality after school costs are paid, or the County levy is met, then the taxes for the whole community must be increased, and quarry operators, it would seem, are no different from any other industry; they would be, I am sure, quite willing to pay their share.

Recently the Halton Region Conservation Authorities presented a brief to the Select Committee at Queen's Park regarding quarrying operations in the escarpment area.

In reply to this brief, quarry operators were able to irrevocably state that there is no record of a lowering of the water level caused by quarries in Halton County, as Mr. Fortowsky suggests.

They further pointed out that quarries maintained control over blasting and keep seismographic records, so that there is no vibration to cause property damage beyond the quarry limits as Mr. Fortowsky has heard exists.

As for roads, it was also pointed out that trucks operating out of one quarry alone pay over \$150,000 annually in vehicle licenses and gasoline tax. From this money and other monies so received, the Province pays back to the

County over \$362,000 annually for road building and maintenance within the County. A good portion of this money is spent in Esquimes, which helps them to keep their roads in order. The money that is paid for licenses and gasoline tax far exceeds any damage the trucks hauling stone might cause.

People in choosing to criticize overlook the fact that stone quarrying is an essential industry. Stone is required for road building, home and general construction, for sidewalks and sewers and a multiplicity of other purposes.

Stone is a heavy commodity and it therefore must be obtained as close to where it will be used as possible, in order to keep down haulage costs. If quarries are unduly and unfairly taxed, if there are by-laws created to prohibit or unduly hinder their operations, then there can only be one result — increased cost of stone, which in turn means increased construction costs.

Because the province and municipalities are large users of stone, higher costs of stone would also mean increased taxes.

Maybe Mr. Fortowsky, after he left the Esquimes Township Office, should have gone down to one of the quarries which he talks about and asked them their side of the story.

Rud L. Whiting.

County Council Golden Age club enjoy turkey dinner, program

A bountiful turkey dinner, with all the trimmings, was very much enjoyed by 80 members of Acton Golden Age Club Thursday, Dec. 15. The cooking had been done by several of the members and tables set by them, and beautifully decorated in the Christmas theme.

The Y Ladies Auxiliary kindly and very efficiently served the dinner, allowing all the members to sit down at once and thoroughly enjoy the wonderful banquet.

Mr. Davidson called the officers to the head table and proposed the toast to the Queen. Mrs. Reed later introduced the officers. Later Mr. Hargrave, in a few words, thanked the Auxiliary. A sing song followed the meal, using the new Christmas song sheets, Mrs. Bradshaw at the piano.

Mrs. Carpenter and her girls entertained with dancing and singing, Marianne Coles taking the solo part.

Glenn Banks, music teacher from the public schools, played for a group of his students who sang several carols and Joe Petric played a number of Christmas carols on his accordion.

Mrs. McKenzie from Georgetown showed slides taken on a trip to the Holy Land last Christmas.

County Council Briefs

At their final meeting of 1966, Halton County Councilors:

- Discussed at length a 1967 grant to the Royal Botanical Gardens. A committee report recommending a grant of \$5,000 for 1967 finally passed, when a motion to change it was defeated. It was pointed out the report was only a recommendation and William Hunter, Reeve of Georgetown, suggested, "it could just as easily have been \$1,000 or \$10,000." The grant for 1966 amounted to \$15,000.
- Heard reeve Herbert Merry of Oakville and Gordon Gallagher of Burlington congratulate Warden H. H. Hinton for his "excellent job as Warden during 1966." Reeve Merry reported that Warden Hinton had been nominated as a fellow of the Royal Commonwealth Society of London.
- Received a report from Warden H. H. Hinton for the months of July, August, September and October. During that period the Warden attended more than 90 functions on behalf of the county.
- Learned the County's special Homemakers and Nurses Services Committee recommended enlargement of its terms of reference to include a feasibility study on establishing a County Welfare Unit.
- Received a report from the Grand Jury on the condition of the county jail. The jury stated recreation and library facilities should be improved and the prisoners should be more fully occupied with either work or recreation. The jury also criticized "inadequate lighting."
- Agreed to contact all municipalities in the county and ask for a list of the conventions attended by their representatives in 1966, and request the county clerk-administrator to prepare a list of all conventions scheduled for 1967.
- Learned the Museum Board Christmas party was a success. Members of the museum board each donated \$5 to cover the cost of the annual party.
- Learned a delegation from the newly-formed Halton County Residential Care Authority of the Association for the Mentally Retarded attended a meeting of the Finance, Welfare and Assessment Committee. R. Kanerva represented the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded and it was reported the new committee intended to look into the establishment of a residential care building. The cost of buildings and maintenance would be subsidized by the

Golden Age club enjoy turkey dinner, program

The next meeting of the club will be January 5, 1967, and then the annual meeting will be held on January 19, 1967. The officers and members of A.G.A.C. wish the editor and staff of the Acton Free Press and all their readers a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Announce winners for 1966 fishing

Following are the 1966 prize winners in competitions held by the Rockwood and District Fish and Game Protective Association.

Rainbow trout: John Gilberts, Acton, 5 lbs., 3 oz.; Alfred Aug, Guelph, 4 lbs., 1 oz.; Roy Lovell, Rockwood, 1 lb., 11 oz.

Junior special, rainbow: Randy Downes, Guelph, 7 lbs., 8 oz.

Speckled trout: Herb Saunders, Rockwood, 4 lbs., 1 oz.; Jim Milne, Rockwood, 1 lb., 1 oz.; Max Milne, Rockwood, 14 1/2 oz.

Special, speckled: Gail Nichol, Rockwood, 1 lb., 14 oz.; Brenda Ingle, Rockwood, 15 oz.

Ladies' special, speckled: J. Simuson, Guelph, 11 1/4 oz.

Change times of services

(Intended for last week)

On both Christmas and New Year's, Sunday services will be changed to 9:45 a.m. at Limehouse Presbyterian Church. Sunday School will not be held either day but the children will be expected to attend church with their parents.

The annual Sunday School Christmas concert will be held on Thursday evening.

Mrs. W. Mitchell spent a few days with her cousin, Mrs. E. Brethour in Toronto last week. We wish the editor and all the staff and readers of the Acton Free Press the Season's Greetings.

Show movies in arena this summer

Movies will be shown in Acton arena this summer. The new program is being arranged by recreation director Howard Pearce.

Good movies will be rented at reasonable cost. A projection booth will be built later, and a projector will be rented. If the program is very successful, a projector could be purchased.

Let's Play Bridge

by bill coats

If I were to put a title on this hand it would be "When a bad split is good news". This little gem occurred at the Georgetown Duplicate Bridge Club. When I first looked over the cards my first thought was "how can I hold this one down?" But let's look at the hands.

North
S-Q 7 4
H-Q 5
D-8 6 5
C-K Q 8 4 2

West
S-J 10 8 5
H-9 6
D-K 2
C-A 10 7 6 3

East
S-K
H-18 4 3 2
D-Q J 10 7 4
C-9 5

South
S-A 9 6 3 2
H-A K 10 7
D-A 9 3
C-J

I don't recall who the dealer was but South opened the bidding. The rest was as follows:

South West North East
1S Pass 2C Pass
2H Pass 2S Pass
3S Pass 4S All Pass

West lead the king of diamonds and dummy was spread. I was faced with two diamond losers, a club loser and at least one spade loser. It looked like down one for sure. But bridge games are never won by being pessimistic. If I duck the lead perhaps the opponents will err. West finally lead a low club which was taken by the Jack. In order to test trump, the ace was lead. When East contributed the King, a bad split in trump was revealed. A heart to the Queen provided an entry for club ruff. Now the Ace and ten of hearts were lead.

When West discarded a diamond on the heart 10, declarer ruffed the trick in dummy. This ruff provided an entry for another club ruff. The heart King was lead and rather than let dummy over ruff, West discarded a club. Now a trump was lead to the Queen and a final club ruff gave declarer his tenth trick. The Ace and small diamond went to West's last two trump.

The bad trump split was countered by a good club split. This allowed declarer to get three club ruffs. If the diamond Ace is cashed earlier, declarer will get one less ruff in clubs. Naturally West should have cashed the club Ace after winning the diamond king. Two trump tricks would have come to the defense regardless of what South did.

Last week's winners at the Acton Bridge Club were: first George Soltz and Bill Coats, second Carl Sinclair and Jack Coats, third Kay Campbell and Mary Manning.

LOWER AGE, SPECIAL DAY FOR VOTING

Dear Sir,

Like many Canadians I, too, am concerned about the appalling apathy shown by our eligible voters (London 13 per cent voted). In actual fact it means democracy is dead. It means a small percentage of people are running the affairs of a large percentage of mortals who simply don't realize just how important this, our most democratic right, is.

It is easy to say these people don't deserve any consideration and let it go at that, but those who are elected are setting the stage for future Canadians. Some decisions are irrevocable, and it is my opinion that if democracy is to be resurrected, our youth has to be given a say in Canada's future, and, as many of our teenagers are far more informed on current affairs than our older citizens, I think the voting age must be lowered to 18.

I also think November 11 should become a day of national importance, and whenever possible designated as voting day. We could remember those who died for democracy by exercising our most democratic right, and fines should be imposed on those eligible voters who neglect to vote for no valid reason.

W. A. Johnson,
R.R. 2 Rockwood.

Where a gas or oil heater or coal stove is used in a room, be sure there is adequate ventilation. Opening a window for a few inches will help to remove dangerous fumes such as carbon monoxide.

—There still isn't any great rush at the local license issuer's office in Acton. Drivers are advised to shop early and avoid a last minute rush.

KEY to a HAPPY NEW YEAR

Here is the key that opens the door for a very Happy New Year, and many, many more. And to all of you, our thanks go, too.

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF
ACTON PHARMACY

A. L. Riemer Equipment Company
PLUMBING — HEATING CONTRACTOR
74 Cook St. Acton, Ont. 853-0640

WE'RE RIGHT THERE WHEN YOU NEED HELP

When there's an emergency, A call to us gets action fast.

RELIABLE SERVICE
REASONABLE RATES

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BEST OF LUCK

May the year ahead be your lucky one, with dreams come true, hopes fulfilled. Our good fortune is all our fine customers, to whom we owe so much.

Canadian Tire Corporation
ASSOCIATE STORE
ACTON, ONT.

Happy New Year!

May each new day bring happiness and cheer to you, our fine, friendly customers.

TOTH MOTORS

IGA NEW YEARS PARTY SUGGESTIONS

SAVE 26c — PARTY TIME COCKTAIL MIXES 25-oz. 99c

SAVE 16c — DeJEAN SMALL SHRIMPS 4 1/2-oz. Tin 59c

SAVE 14c — JACKS CHEESE TWISTS Twin Pak. 45c

SAVE 16c — HOSTESS — REG. 69c PKG. POTATO CHIPS Only 59c

SAVE 14c — CHASE & SANBORN. COFFEE 1-lb. Bag 79c

OLD SOUTH FROZEN ORANGE JUICE 5 6-oz. Tins \$1.

IGA OVEN FRESH Lemon Meringue PIE 5 55c

KRAFT CHEESE WHIZ 32-oz. Jar \$1.21

PRODUCE OF U.S.A. — CAN. No. 1 GRADE

Cello Tomatoes 14-oz. Tube 29c

PRODUCE OF U.S.A. — CAN. No. 1 GRADE

Celery Stalks Stalk 25c

PRODUCE OF U.S.A. — CAN. No. 1 GRADE

Green Cabbage Each 25c

GRADE "A" — READY FOR THE OVEN

YOUNG TURKEYS FROZEN CRYOVAC

Toms — 20-lbs. and Up Home — 6-14 lb. Avg.

39c 45c

TABLE-RITE GRADE "A" — READY FOR THE OVEN — FROZEN CRYOVAC

YOUNG TURKEYS 20-lbs. & up 45c Home 6-14 lb. Avg. 49c

SKINLESS SHORT SHANK READY TO EAT — WHOLE OR HALF

SMOKED HAMS 69c

TABLE-RITE — CANADA'S FINEST QUALITY RED OR BLUE BRAND BEEF

STANDING RIB ROAST SHORT CUT 89c