

The Acton Free Press

Ninety-Second Year—No. 27

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Twelfth Night tree burning held tonight

Hundreds of Christmas trees will go up in smoke tonight (Thursday) starting at 7:30 p.m. during the annual Chamber of Commerce twelfth night burning project.

Town workmen gathered trees during a special collection Wednesday and piled them in a vacant lot near the town dump.

Mayor Les Dudy will join members of the C. of C. in lighting the trees and Acton firefighters will be on hand with a fire pumper to extinguish the dying embers.

Everyone will be able to ward off the cold by enjoying a cup of coffee and munch on doughnuts which will be supplied by the Chamber.

25th anniversary for Mr. & Mrs. Bruce

Mr. and Mrs. Ward Bruce, R. R. 3, Acton, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Friday, December 30, at a family get-together at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Johnson, R.R. 3, Acton.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce were married on New Year's Day, 1942.

Games were played and Mr. and Mrs. Bruce were presented with gifts from the Bruce and Savers families, also gifts from a few close friends.

The bridesmaid and best man, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bowles of Camp Borden, were present. Lunch was served with wedding cake.

—Have you tried writing 1967 yet? It's pretty difficult for those of us who just got used to writing 1966.

Special meeting

Choose Hornby site for Halton-Peel jail

Eighty-three acres of land on the Base Line, Ninth Line corner, near Hornby, has been selected as the ideal site for the proposed Maplehurst Regional Detention Centre, to serve both Halton and Peel Counties. The land is owned by a Mr. Simonyi.

A resolution directing the solicitor to acquire the property was passed at a special meeting of Halton County Council on Thursday of last week. The necessary by-laws will be drawn up and presented at the inaugural meetings of both Halton and Peel counties for approval.

Reeve William Coulter of Nassagaweya Township, vice-chairman of the Maplehurst Regional Detention Centre Board, said the site east of Hornby in North Oakville was one of three in that area considered by the board. It was, he said, the best of the three sites considered because it was on higher ground and better water conditions were available.

The site consists of 83 acres, but currently there is an option to sell on 20 acres. "It could be either 83 or 63 acres,

Chimney fire in snowstorm at Ospringe

Acton firefighters can't say they enjoyed the cold, blustery ride in a snowstorm on the back of the fire truck Wednesday of last week but they were happy to learn that first reports regarding the fire were wrong.

A call came in alerting firefighters the Ospringe store was on fire. When they arrived at the scene of the former general store on the corner of No. 25 and 24 Highways, no sign of smoke or fire was evident. They drove to D. G. Robertson's new store along 24 Highway and started both Mr. and Mrs. Robertson by asking if their store was on fire.

Within minutes it was learned a chimney fire at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Fritzer, next door to the old store, was the cause of the alarm. The fire was doused and chimney checked before firefighters returned to the hall.

The old store is now owned by the Department of Highways.



ACTON COUNCIL members Tuesday night took the oath of office for their first two-year term of office during the inaugural meeting. Seated front row left to right are Reeve H. H. Hinton, Mayor Les Dudy and Deputy Reeve F. G. Oakes. Back row left to right are councillors Earl Masales, Ted Tyler Jr.,

Charles Perry, William Williams, Robert Drinkwater and G. W. McKenzie and clerk-administrator Jack McGeachie. Rev. Dwight Engel from Trinity United church was present to offer an inaugural prayer.

—Staff Photo

Church bells, whistle sound midnight centennial medley

The joyous, resonant ringing of church bells and the reverberating salute of Beardmore and Co. whistle heralded centennial year in Acton at midnight on New Year's Eve.

Canada's 100th birthday began here with five minutes of resounding welcome, the echoing peal outdoors matched by horns, noisemakers and shouted greetings at house parties and two dances.

The tannery whistle's familiar sound was given full scope by Doug Draycott of the plant engineering staff.

Three church bells formed a special centennial medley. Sounding the longest was the bell in the turret at St. Alban's church, which thinned into a short solo after five minutes of spirited pealing.

Pulling the bell rope in the darkened church was the rector, the Rev. Richie McMurray, accompanied only by his wife.

Waiting in St. Joseph's church for midnight, Father V. J. Morgan and his housekeeper, Miss Whalen, heard the tannery whistle sound. Immediately he sounded the bell to join the industrial-ecumenical quartet.

St. Joseph's bell is a familiar sound in its district, as it rings the angelus three times each day as well as sounding during services. However, it rang a record number of consecutive peals for centennial.

As Father Morgan ceased, closed the church doors and started home he heard the last few distant notes from the Anglican church.

Only bells with a distinct tone were at the Presbyterian church, where a special organ stop for chiming sounded through the loudspeaker system.

Organist Ted Hansen played the familiar notes of a carillon "peal" for a steady five minutes, while his wife, sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Claigie Coles, kept him company in the big church sanctuary.

The men who were ringing in the new year seemed to enjoy

their labors, as requested by the centennial committee.

"After all," said one of them philosophically, "it only happens once every 100 years."

The usual New Year's Eve dance at the Legion Hall was sold out, as it always is, while at the other end of town another full house enjoyed the dance in the Music Centre.

With house parties or family groups watching television, there was a crescendo of lights and noise at the stroke of midnight.

Initial organization of the compiling of a huge list of former Actonians is beginning.

It is expected both I.O.D.E. Chapters and the W.I. will cooperate, and there will perhaps be an appeal for assistance soon. Focus of the centennial celebration here will be fair weekend.

Only setback to the centennial occurred just before Christmas, when a group of young boys kicked in all the outdoor floodlights at the centennial library. They were caught at it.

While New Year's Eve certainly wouldn't be called quiet in the literal sense, it was "quiet" figuratively as far as police reports for town and district go.

Last issue on Thursday change after 92 years

Next week, the Acton Free Press will be published on Wednesday rather than Thursday.

The Acton paper has been published on Thursdays since its inception 92 years ago, but changing buying patterns have made the change advisable.

Now shoppers may check the ads well before shopping on Thursday afternoons or evenings, as more and more are doing, or on Friday, Saturdays are losing out in popularity with shoppers as more people travel on weekends.

The paper will be printed about three o'clock, with delivery to the stores in town and to the post office as soon as possible afterwards. They will probably be available about 4:30 p.m.

Out-of-town deliveries to district stores will be made early Thursday morning.

Advanced printing necessitates earlier deadlines, particularly in the classified ad department. New deadline for classifieds is 10 a.m. on Wednesday morning, rather than at noon.

Display advertising and news stories will also be required earlier — on Thursday or Friday of the previous week if possible.

The staff would be very pleased if club correspondents would note the change and not delay news items.

Already the regular correspondents from rural centres are sending in their columns earlier. Late news can always be phoned in and added.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Turner celebrate anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Turner, 277 Arthur Street, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary quietly at their home, Friday, December 30, but their popularity with neighbors and friends was evident from the large number of flowers, gifts and cards.

Mr. Turner was born in Sutton Colfield, Staffordshire, England, in 1883 and met his wife-to-be, the former Florence Jones, during leave from World War I at the home of a brother. The couple were married during the 11-day leave and then Mr. Turner returned to action.

Mrs. Turner, who was born in Birmingham, England, left for Canada in 1918 while her husband was still in France, and on November 11, 1918, she was in New York City when the bells were chiming for the armistice. The following day, she arrived in Acton.

Her husband arrived in Canada from the army on May 24, 1918.

Prior to joining up, he had lived in Canada since 1903 and worked at Beardmore and Co. Ltd. He returned there to work after being discharged from the army, including ser-

vice time, he was employed at Beardmore's for 57 years, until he retired in 1960.

The couple have three children — Fred Jr., who is married and lives in Montreal with his wife and one child; William (Bill), an O.P.P. officer stationed at Burlington, who is married and has three children; and a daughter Betty (Mrs. Stan Trowhill), who lives in Brampton.

A pre-anniversary present from their son Fred was a delightful surprise when they enjoyed a two week vacation in Bermuda in October.

Both enjoy watching TV. During the summer months, Mr. Turner is an avid gardener and Mrs. Turner's favorite hobby is knitting.

Since coming to Acton, they have noticed many changes in the town and can recall the old wooden sidewalks which have been replaced by cement. Both claim the changes are for the better and they have enjoyed seeing the town progress.

Among the many gifts was a golden tea service presented by Mayor Les Dudy and clerk-administrator Jack McGeachie, from the town.

Make appointments for '67 at inaugural council meeting

Acton council Tuesday evening launched into the first two-year term of office for municipal government in town, after taking the oath of office members made committee and board appointments and conducted routine business necessary at the first meeting of the year.

Customary procedure following an election is for the mayor to review the names of successful candidates and prepare a list of appointments to committees and boards and submit it to council for approval. Tuesday night the recommendation was accepted without change.

Appointments are made for 1967 only. Although the present council sits for a two-year term, it is possible committees and board representatives may change for 1968.

Number 1 committee this year will comprise of the following:

Administration, Reeve H. H. Hinton; finance and education, deputy-reeve F. G. Oakes; assessment and development, councillor G. W. McKenzie; and welfare and property, councillor Charles Perry. Mr. Hinton assumes the role of chairman of this committee.

Number 2 committee will be: Roads, councillor Robert Drinkwater; water and sewer, councillor Earl Masales; fire and police, councillor William Williams; and lights and sanitation, councillor Ted Tyler Jr. Mr. Drinkwater will be chairman of this committee.

Appointed to the court of revision are Mayor Les Dudy as chairman, G. W. McKenzie, W. Williams, R. Drinkwater and E. Masales. Deputy-reeve F. G. Oakes was appointed as the mayor's substitute on hydro and Mr. McKenzie as the mayor's substitute on the library board.

This year's budget committee comprises Dr. Oakes as chairman, Mr. Hinton, Mr. Drinkwater, Mr. Masales and the mayor who is an ex-officio member of all committees.

Councillors Tyler and Masales were appointed to both the Parks Board and Recreation committee. Deputy-reeve Oakes will be council's representative on the band committee and Mayor Dudy and councillor Drinkwater council's representative on Planning Board.

The Acton Development Commission for 1967 will be composed of Mayor Dudy, Reeve Hinton and councillors Perry, Williams and Tyler.

Acton centennial project committee comprises all members of No. 1 committee along with library board members and Dave Dills.

Other routine business, included giving the mayor and clerk signing power, approving a borrowing by-law, authorizing payment of certain accounts which allow discounts, appointing Jack McGeachie as clerk administrator and setting council meeting dates for the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

Councillor Ted Tyler wondered if council shouldn't consider training someone to the duties of the clerk in the event of illness. He pointed out that council was guided by the valuable knowledge of the clerk and if he became ill it would pose a problem to council. He was

informed that office manager Joe T. Hurst often took over in the clerk's absence and was well acquainted with most of the clerk's duties.

Due to the poor response across Canada, original plans for students to attend Expo have been altered and the cost per student has been increased from \$34 to \$55 apiece.

In spite of the change, 120 Acton district high school students still intend to make the visit, while some have cancelled their plans.

Original plans called for students camping in tents with 10 per tent. Instead, everyone will camp in trailers with six students in each, along with a supervising teacher.

Expected dates for the Acton students to attend have been established for June 14 to June 21.

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Councillor E. Tyler queries town clearing private lots

Attending his first meeting Tuesday night as a newly-elected council member, Ted Tyler Jr. served notice of motion he would be debating council's action in allowing town equipment and workmen to clear snow from private business places.

During the last meeting for 1966, a request had been made from William MacLeod and Dave Manes to have town equipment truck away snow from the IGA and Medical Centre parking area after it had been piled up excessively. It had been agreed to charge at the rate of \$6 per hour for a front end loader and \$4 per hour for use of a town truck for this purpose.

It had been noted by last year's council, the property owners would be responsible for clearing the lots of snow and piling it up after each snowfall. When town equipment and men were available, the piles of snow would be trucked away at the above rates.

Councillor Tyler said he did not agree with municipal equipment and men doing private work. "The town should not compete with private contractors. If the town clears the snow for the amount of money established, either the town staff is underpaid or we are overstaffed," he exclaimed.

He also believed it was illegal for the town to do private contracting, as all town trucks only carry a municipal license. He was of the opinion private contractors wouldn't do this work for the prices set by the town.

He requested No. 2 Committee review the problem and the subject be reviewed at the next council meeting. Reeve H. H. Hinton said he had received several strenuous objections to the town's action by private contractors.

Councillor Robert Drinkwater was of the opinion council should review the procedural by-law and suggested it was time to enforce certain parts of the by-law early in the year. It was agreed the procedural by-law should be reviewed and possibly redrafted.

Reeve Hinton, during enquiries by members, remarked "I have been a member of council for a number of years and I believe this year, we have the best possible potential for a good council."

The mayor's only reply was "My only comment at this time is they have lots of room to prove it!"

Councillor G. W. McKenzie enquired about procedure regarding either No. 1 or No. 2 Committee. Bringing in a recommendation after careful study and wondered if it was not assumed the recommendation was the best possible solution and therefore should be supported without argument.

He was told by Mayor Les Dudy it was every member's prerogative to query any recommendation; but it was hoped the committee in question had arrived at the best possible solution.

Councillor William Williams reminded the mayor he had missed an important point in his inaugural address by forgetting the police office renovations. He stated the police office quarters had become too cramped and the area was no longer adequate for proper operation.

He was told this was still in mind to be reviewed this year. Mr. Williams also reminded council to consider a donation to the Salvation Army following a recent visit from Captain King.

Members packed up their briefcases prior to the usual 11 p.m. curfew but were reminded early adjournment was not always possible.



LAST CENTURY GOWNS were worn by members of the Duke of Devonshire Chapter I.O.D.E. Tuesday evening during the first meeting in the Centennial year. Miss Ruby Clark is shown wearing a bonnet estimated over 65 years old, grey taffeta skirt and mauve shawl. She wore a gold watch and chain estimated over 100 years old which was worn by the late Miss Cameron, sister of a former Presbyterian minister here, Rev. Donald Boyd Cameron. Mrs. R. M. McDonald wore clothes all owned and previously worn by herself. The 65-year-old cloak brought back many fond memories for her when she got it out to wear. She also donned a floor length evening gown and scarf with matching evening bag and slippers.



MR. AND MRS. F. TURNER celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary quietly at their home Friday. They received many flowers, gifts and cards from neighbors and friends.