

Progress on day care centre reported at quarterly meeting

Eighteen delegates were present for the quarterly meeting of the Social Service Council, held on Monday, Feb. 27 in the St. John's Ambulance Brigade room. Mrs. D. Engel, retiring president, chaired the opening minutes of the program, and presented a report of the C.S.C. activities during its founding year.

"Much has been accomplished by the Community Service Council in the short time of its existence," reported Mrs. Engel. "The idea, conceived in the minds of a few people in the spring of 1966, has developed from one of limited scope involving the women's organizations of the town of Acton to one of variety and ambition embracing a much wider representation of organizations."

"The Council began to function as a service to the town in November of 1966 after volunteers had been gathered for the suggested services. An immediate need was seen for a clothing depot and this was established under the capable hands of the Legion Ladies at the town hall.

"Some of the services such as transport and the clothing depot have been in fairly regular use, others have been used sporadically. It is too early really to assess the use which will be made of these services as it will take a while for the public to be aware completely of availability of the different categories, as referred by various authorities in the town."

"The enthusiasm and willingness to work has been an inspiration to me as president," continued Mrs. Engel. "It is with a certain amount of regret that I must tender my resignation since I will no longer be living in Acton. The regret is alleviated by the confidence I have in this Council to get a job done."

"You have given me a broadening and enjoyable experience. I have met people whom I would not normally have met and for whom I have the deepest respect and admiration. My best wishes go to you and your executive for your future service in this community."

Mrs. J. Bray, vice-president, assumed the chair for the remainder of the meeting. The new delegate from U.C.W., Mrs. K. Allen, was welcomed. It was decided to request a replacement delegate from the W.I. and Acton Welfare Authorities because of Mrs. Fryer's resignation due to ill health.

Reports from the various coordinators were tabled. Mrs. M. Johnston, Clothing Depot: Considerable activity, clothing supply adequate. Instructions were requested regarding the storage of the better articles of winter wear. It was decided that because the group has plenty of space it would be wise to save these articles.

A request for serviceable spring and summer clothing is now being made and maternity and layette wear are always required. It was decided to ask the Golden Age Club, who provided the present shelving,

to make some storage facilities. It was noted that the Legion Ladies and Mason Knitting have provided a good supply of new underwear.

Miss Jessie Coles, Social Companionship, reports little activity. Miss Coles tendered her resignation as co-ordinator but will continue to sit on the Council.

Mrs. F. New, baby sitting: no problems. Mrs. J. Kammings, home making, service functions smoothly and efficiently when called upon.

Miss B. Rossell, transportation: a good roster of willing drivers, many of whom turn back to the C.S.C. the "gas money" of \$5. to Hamilton and Toronto and \$2. to Guelph and Georgetown.

A new project of "Meals on Wheels" was presented for discussion. This would be a hot, full meal delivered at cost or less perhaps once a week on a regular schedule to elderly or ill or shut-in residents upon request. Each delegate will take the idea to her own group to determine willingness to participate and discuss ideas for establishing this service.

Mrs. C. L. Romvaldsen will begin a survey of services already offered in Acton. The format for this will be worked out at the next executive meeting.

"Thank you's" going outside the Council organizations include Mason Knitting for donated underwear; Mrs. G. Banks for sewing diapers for an emergency layette and an offer of knitting; Bert Hinton for flannelette; and Dills Publishing for paper donated.

A motion was passed that delegates request their organizations to allocate a small amount of money to the Council. The finances at present consist of the remains of a private donation and despite all possible frugality, there are some unavoidable expenses.

A report on progress, made towards a Day Care Centre, was presented. It has been established that such a centre must be in a R3 area of the town. The Council is still looking for a house with a fair sized lot.

An estimate of budget has been made with the help of St. Catharines and Toronto Day Care Centres. Salaries must be paid to a qualified supervisor, at least two assistants, cooking and cleaning services. Rent, utilities, equipment replacement must be provided. The estimate for a hot meal at noon and snack is 50c per child, daily.

Comparison of probable charge per child each week with welfare payments allocated per child, led one to believe that even if full fees for present welfare children was mun-

icipally provided, a monthly saving would accrue plus additional savings considered by the removal of parent- (freed to earn a living) and older children from the welfare rolls. (This has been found to be so in several municipalities where Day Care was established). It is expected that privately financed children will form the larger part of the enrollment.

All municipal funds contributed to Day Care would be largely returned from the province (the exact return, probably to 80 per cent, depends upon pending legislation). Although the monthly budget would not be small, the otherwise unobtainable provincial funds coming into Acton would be considerable.

Acton's reputation as a progressive community would of course be enhanced with the establishment of Day Care.

The amount of indoor and outdoor equipment seems formidable (municipal funds used for this also largely recoverable) but almost all of it could be made by local volunteers with little trouble or expense if these were shared by a number of donors. Detailed, illustrated instructions are available.

A motion was made to proceed with the necessary steps to establish the Day Care Centre. It is felt that more information and perhaps legal advice is necessary before municipal authorities are approached.

Mrs. N. Finlay advised the meeting that if the conference program offered by the Ontario Welfare Association at Hart House in Toronto, the events of Wednesday, May 17 would be of interest. A motion was made to finance a delegate (at \$4.50) to this.

Departing from the usual strictly business atmosphere of Social Service Council meetings, coffee was served at the conclusion of business so that delegates would have an opportunity to chat with Mrs. Engel before her departure.

A number of delegates went upstairs to inspect the clothing depot "while the kettle boiled".

The next general meeting will be on Monday, May 29.



GEORGINA GALE NURSE and David Glenn Beerman were married in St. Andrew's church, Georgetown, on February 4.

Free Press Personals

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Leatherland have returned from a winter holiday in Florida.

Mrs. Jack Milne of Nassagaweya township is a patient in Guelph General Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Macpherson spent last week with their son and family in Clarkson.

Druggist Bill Yundt, his wife and young child have moved from Cooksville to Elmore Drive.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Dolphin of Weston visited on the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Stan Norton.

Mrs. Robert Algie has returned from spending a month's holiday at Laguna Beach, Calif.

Director of Halton county museum Maj. H. J. Newman of Ballinacree is a patient in Oakville-Trafalgar Hospital.

Mrs. A. K. Mann and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Albert Buck of Hanover, are visiting for two weeks with relatives in Lutz, Florida.

Mr. Charles E. Cutts is a patient in Guelph Hospital. His many friends hope for an improvement in health for him soon.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Terry of Owen Sound spent a couple of days during the week as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Cam Leishman.

Mrs. Campbell Agnew of 81 Roseford Terrace, formerly of Campbellville, is a patient in Guelph General Hospital. Friends hope for a speedy recovery.

Dr. and Mrs. Robert Buckner, Miss Jean Buckner and Robble Buckner will be in New York City this weekend for the marriage of Miss Janet Buckner to Bernard Robert Bober.

Mr. Calvin Aitken accompanied by Mrs. Frank Huff of Bloomfield enjoyed a visit last weekend with their daughter and son, Janet and Bruce Huff at East Lansing, Mich.

Miss Susan Radford, a student at Lakeshore Teachers' College, was the guest of honor at a 21st birthday party at the home of Mrs. Dolly Robinson. Among the former neighbors present were Mr. and Mrs. Tom Lynch of Kitchener. Guests came from Toronto as well as Acton. Miss Radford received some lovely gifts.

Georgina Nurse, David Beerman married in Georgetown ceremony

Rev. Kevin Johnston officiated at the ceremony in St. Andrew's church, Georgetown, which united Georgina Gale Nurse and David Glenn Beerman on February 4. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Nurse, 14 Stevens Cres., Georgetown, and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Beerman, 221 Mason Blvd., Acton.

The bride wore a blue suit with white veil and white accessories and carried white carnations. Her attendant, Miss Pat Beerman, wore a white suit with black accessories and carried pink carnations. She was given in marriage by her father, and the groomsmen was Bill Conn.

In the evening a reception was held at the home of the groom's parents in Acton. The cake was made and decorated by the groom's parents.

Guests were present from London, Toronto and Rockwood as well as Acton and Georgetown.

The groom is employed at Standard Products, Georgetown. The couple are making their home in Rockwood.

Before the wedding, Miss Pat Beerman held a miscellaneous shower for the bride.

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Supt. D. Mason attends convention

All hydro commission members were present at the meeting in the new building last Thursday.

Accounts passed amounted to \$672.88. Superintendent Doug Mason was authorized to attend the current annual meeting of the O.M.E.A.-A.M.E.U. at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, February 26, 27, 28 and March 1.

Furniture for the empty board room has been ordered.

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