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Ask high school board to review scholarships

An unusual request from Acton branch of the Canadian Legion brought a vote of thanks from Acton district high school board at the regular monthly meeting of the board Monday.

Mike McMillan, a representative of the Legion, asked the board for a review of scholarships available to students, some of which the local branch contributes. He said the Legion branch feels scholarships at the school were outdated and unrealistic. He asked if there was any possible way the board could raise them.

"We don't feel we should lead the way but would be willing to fall in line if contributions were raised."

Mr. McMillan felt some industries and labor unions would contribute if an effort was made to raise scholarships.

Whose job is it to solicit scholarships? Some members thought it was a Home and School Association's but trustee Ray Arbic said it was definitely the principal's job.

A motion was passed asking Principal Hansen to investigate the matter further and make recommendations on approaching industry and interested organizations in the region. Tied with the motion was a vote of thanks to the Legion for bringing the matter to the board's attention.

"This can't be tackled lightly," warned trustee Arbic, "we have got to be prepared to support our plan with figures to make scholarships worthwhile."

"Let's not spread them so thin, either," chairman Tom Watson observed.

The board accepted with deepest regrets the resignation of secretary-treasurer William

Middleton who had been with them since the school was built. Mr. Middleton agreed to stay on the job until a suitable replacement was found.

He was instructed to advertise for a successor amid well wishes for his future from members. Mr. Middleton said he found the job too arduous as he was in his 73rd year. Although enjoying good health at present he felt the board needed a younger man.

Trustees Duncan Moffat and Ray Arbic reported to the board on a meeting of the University Women's Club, Milton, which had a speaker on the new community colleges.

"The meeting was well worthwhile and it was good to see a large representation from Acton," said Mr. Arbic.

"What impressed me," stated Mr. Moffat, "was courses were available for adults as well as young students. They have had pupils as old as 60."

It was also reported courses offered at the community colleges will be suited to the needs of the district they are in. The Halton-Peel college, to be called Davis College after the minister of education, will

be in temporary quarters when it opens this fall.

Correspondence from the Red Cross brought a request for a hearing from a speaker on the subject of blood donor clinics in high schools but it was pointed out students at the Acton school were already participating in local clinics. At the last clinic in the Legion 60 students volunteered with about 14 donors accepted.

Finance chairman Chester Anderson said his committee had received a proposed budget which was being held up for further study.

Teacher-management chairman Ray Arbic disclosed the school would be losing at least three teachers this year but his committee had completed interviews for the positions and there was a good possibility they will be filled. One was filled, 30 applicants were reviewed for another and the third position was still doubtful.

He concluded the school, the town and the board had a great deal to offer. Salary negotiations with teachers are complete except for minimum and maximum figures. A number

of small additions to the salary schedule created interest with the teachers.

"It's the third time I've sat on the committee," said chairman Watson. "There was a definite improvement; this year we were dealing with responsible professionals."

Trustee Kerwin McPhail wanted to know why the board lost part of its rating with the teachers' federation after being at the top last year and was informed it was a vehicle teachers used to inform boards about conditions. Resident teachers felt the board should know teachers better personally and this was their way of registering a protest.

"We were at the bottom of the list three years ago," the chairman reviewed. "Last year we were at the top. We slipped one this year."

Property chairman K. McPhail reported on trouble with blackboards and heating system and agreed to look further into alterations for purchasing a tractor for grass cutting. The secretary suggested the board make arrangements similar to the public school board's with the town.

The board also:

- Accepted the resignation of O. L. Drijber from the school teaching staff.
- Admired a sign done by assistant principal J. Bray which was used to attract teachers at the recent junket in Toronto.

- Learned Mr. Hansen and Mr. Bray had completed visits to public schools in the area.

- Received a report from the principal which showed teachers missed only 10 days of school in February.

Chairman Tom Watson presided at the meeting which had its moments of levity from trustees Arbic and Moffat who attended with C. Anderson, K. McPhail, the secretary-treasurer and the principal.



KEN MURRAY and Fred Meadows, of Rockwood display two huge specimens of piscatorial splendor they caught fishing in Lake Simcoe Monday afternoon. The big one held by Ken tips the scales at 16 lbs. while Fred holds one just under 14 lbs. Both are lake trout. The two anglers were ice fishing at the Pine-fish huts at Oro Station when they got the big strikes within 20 minutes of one another. Bait? Live herring and a spoon. The big one almost knocked the hut stove over as it was pulled in. (Staff Photo)

Cathy Lawson finds different sign of spring

Signs of spring ranging all the way from crows reappearing and more moderate weather are plentiful but Cathy Lawson, 10, Brock St., a grade 4 pupil at the Robert Little school, probably came up with one of the most peculiar last Saturday afternoon.

Cathy was tobogganing near the banks of the Black Creek which runs from Lindsay's mill over Church St. and at the foot of Brock St., when a large frog, slippery and wriggly, jumped on her toboggan. Cathy ran home with the frog on her toboggan and hurried into the house when her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lawson heard the story. They took the half frozen frog into the house and put it in a jar of water.

It immediately became active and the Lawsons fed it bread crumbs which the frog devoured. Monday Cathy took the frog to school where it was put in the room aquarium.

Cathy didn't know where the frog came from, but father Harry said it must have had a brace and bit to come out of either place since the ground and banks of the creek are frozen solid.

Acton has \$7,318,191 of county assessment

Halton County has \$308,907,324 worth of equalized assessment on which 1967 taxes will be drawn, it was announced last week at the February meeting of Halton County Council. Of this, just over \$306,000,000 is taxable and the remainder is government property on which grants are paid in lieu of taxes.

Oakville will pay 43.76 per cent of this year's rate and Burlington 40.35 per cent. Other percentages are: Acton, 2.37; Georgetown, 3.57; Nassagaweya, 1.46.

Equalized assessments are: Acton, \$7,318,191; Burlington, \$124,650,805; Georgetown \$16,

279,329; Milton, \$9,918,338; Oakville, \$135,175,493; Esquesing, \$11,041,080; Nassagaweya, \$4,524,088.

Assessor Robert Beach's report showed there is \$1,860,400 worth of Ontario Government property in Halton, and \$811,416 worth of Federal Government property. Ontario pays grants on hydro, department of highways, public works and liquor control board properties. The federal government gives grants instead of taxes on department of transport, post offices, armouries, national defence, C.B.C. and canal reserve properties.

Acton Reeve Herbert H. Hinton asked the county assessor whether there were any "illegal assessments" in Halton. "To my knowledge there are none," Mr. Beach replied.

He said he had made 4,000 spot checks of assessments since assuming his position a year ago.

Reeve Hinton said Ontario Municipal Affairs Minister J. W. Spooner had said recently there were a "lot of illegal assessments in Ontario."

CROWDS of children waited eagerly for the opening of the new centennial library Monday evening. When the doors were opened they swarmed into the building and librarians were taxed to meet the demands of hundreds of avid readers. Librarians report they sold many new library cards and they expect a large increase in membership from citizens of the town and district. The commodious new quarters drew admiring comments from all who visited. (Staff Photo)

Obtain M.Z.B. growth figures council sought

Figures of rate of increase and estimated enrolment, prepared for No. 1 committee of council by public school principal Elmer Smith, were presented to the school board at their March meeting Tuesday evening.

The data was requested in connection with the proposed addition for the M. Z. Bennett school.

School board representatives and the council committee have had two meetings, resulting in the new request for figures.

"What we need now is action," commented board vice-chairman Cyril Bishop. "Let's quit stalling."

Principal Smith's report gave the numbers of children graduating, and pupils admitted to kindergarten, for 1961 to 1971. The figures in 1966 are actual, but beyond that point they are estimated and are subject to change due to population shift in the area.

Year	June Grad.	K.P. Enrl.
1961	30	52
1962	33	60
1963	36	49
1964	36	53
1965	39	40
1966	42	49
1967	36	38
1968	44	42
1969	35	44
1970	35	40
1971	42	40

"There is a constant change in population in Acton," Principal Smith said, "and it makes any figure that is projected very unreliable. Not counting the kindergarten enrolment or the Grade VIII graduates, the following figures will give you some idea of the constant change that takes place in the school population during the year."

	Admissions	Transfers
61-62	75	28
62-63	57	40
63-64	56	53
64-65	59	63
65-66	38	49
66-67 (so far)	55	58

The 44 new homes proposed for Lakeview will produce an estimated one and a half children each. Questioned about ac-

George Kerr wants opinions on stamps

What do you think of trading stamps? Are you "for" or "against" them?

Halton M.P.P. George Kerr is seeking the opinions of his Halton constituents. He explains in today's weekly column from Queen's Park that the government is considering a ban on the promotional gimmick.

Readers are invited to write Mr. Kerr at his home address, 3014 Balmoral Ave., Burlington, with their "grass roots" opinions or comments.

George Kerr announces Halton-West candidacy

George Kerr, present M.L.A. for Halton, announced he will be a candidate for the Conservative nomination for the provincial riding of Halton-West, at the annual meeting of Acton and North Esquesing Progressive Conservative Association.

The meeting and social evening drew a modest crowd to Acton music centre Saturday evening.

The nomination meeting will be held at Central high school auditorium, Burlington, on April 7.

Andrew Frame of Burlington, president of Halton-West P.C. Association, urged everyone to attend the meeting. He mentioned a tentative date for a picnic in June, falling on C. K. Browne's 97th birthday.

Mr. Browne, Mr. Frame declared, is the "oldest practising Tory in the county!" He's also Acton's oldest merchant. He was present at the gathering.

In his address to the group, Mr. Kerr announced that 10 miles of Highway 25, between 401 and Acton, will be completely reconstructed this summer. He also referred to improvements planned for Highway 25 from Highway 7 to 24 at Ospringe.

Appreciation was expressed specifically to Acton mayor Les Duby and reeve Bert Hinton for their part in the constructive comments, rather than criticism, on the Plunkett report. Acton should be proud of them, he declared.

Provincial government involvement in other district programs was also cited.

The provincial agricultural museum to be located on 85 acres at Kelso Conservation Area will show a pre-Confederation agricultural community, he said. Thousands will visit the steam show in its new home in conjunction with the provincial museum.

Work on the dredging of Fairy Lake will begin soon.

The new community college for Halton and Peel, the regional detention centre "to replace the dungeon in Milton" and the new School for the Deaf in Milton cost the government millions of dollars, he pointed out.

Acton's new stop light at the Mill-Main corner, the introduction of a provincial flag and the new GO transit system were also mentioned. The new train system serving the southern part of the area will ease the flow of traffic into Toronto, thus making it easier for those in the north who have to drive.

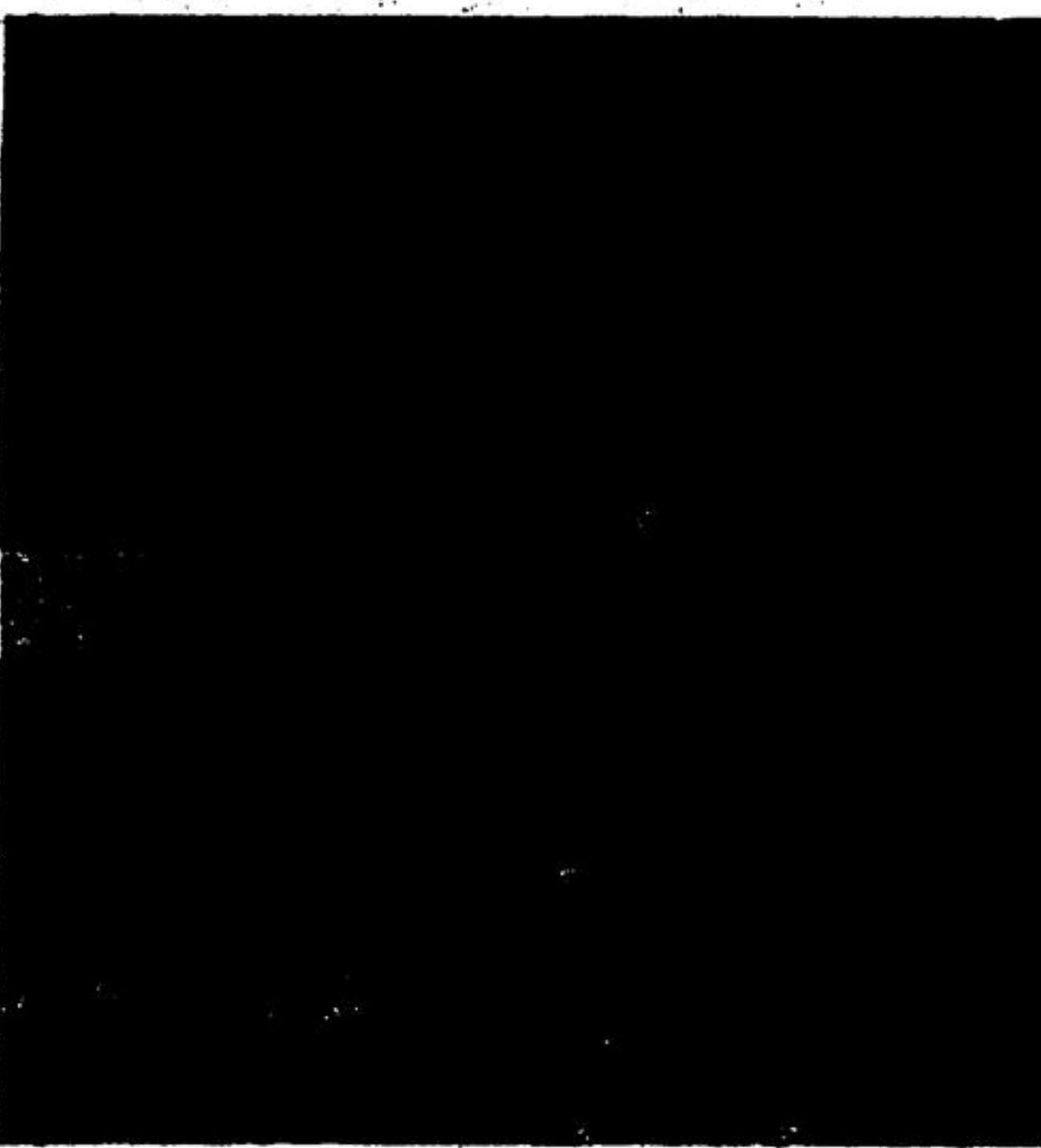
He reported that all parties are glad to hear John Roberts, a dominant figure in the legislature, has recovered from his illness and would be back in his office on Monday. The possibility of an election brought his declaration that he would again be a candidate.

During the social evening, there was dancing and refreshments were served.

Rev. A. H. McKenzie of Acton is first vice-president of the Halton-West P.C. Association, and is the only representative on the executive from Acton and Esquesing.

Ordered Closed

Post office windows were ordered closed this morning from 11 a.m. to 12 noon, owing to the funeral of Governor General Vanier.



Monday opening taxes facilities crowds fill centennial library

First encounter with the public at the new centennial library proved hectic for the librarians but fascinating for all the hundreds of readers who came to try out the new quarters the first day.

A record of about 550 books were taken out on Monday; boots lined the wide stairs and lineups almost filled the roomy hallway in front of the check-out desk.

Quite a few members joined but the librarians didn't look up long enough to make an estimate of how many people were in the building. School children filled the east side of the library after school on Monday and many more children were joined by adults in the evening. (Some of the children were back again on Tuesday for the afternoon-only hours).

Monday librarians were still there nearing 11:30 p.m. sorting out returned books. Standing behind the new walnut desk were chief lib-

rarian Mrs. Isabel Watson, assistants Miss Esther Taylor, Miss Madge Chapman and Mrs. George Williams.

A lovely potted chrysanthemum had been sent to them on opening day, in appreciation of their services, from the library board.

A roster of helpers assisted the librarians in making the

Citizen of Year dinner planned

Who will be Acton's centennial Citizen of the Year?

The civic committee of the Chamber of Commerce is beginning to make arrangements for the annual April event, and they would be happy to hear from anyone with suggestions. Orv. Chapman is chairman of the committee.

The social evening will mark Chamber of Commerce week here.

big move last week. Letters of appreciation of being sent from the library board to Mrs. K. Conroy, Mrs. G. W. McKenzie, Mrs. R. Drinkwater, Mrs. H. R. Force, Mrs. Claude Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Watson and family.

Y's Men who transported books in cartons were Bill Nelles, Milton Ball, Doug Copeland, Gary Bateman, Brian Smith, Rick Coe and G. W. McKenzie. They were finished Thursday and had no problem with transferring the cartons packed by the ladies.

Four applications for caretaker of the new library were reviewed at the special meeting of the board Friday evening in the new building. The application of Mrs. J. van der Kooy, who lives right across the street was accepted.

It was library board members themselves who brought vacuum cleaners from home and cleaned and polished the

(Continued on Page Two)