

The Acton Free Press

Ninety-Second Year.—No. 48.

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1967

Authorized as Second Class Mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa

Eighteen Pages.—Ten Cents

First-hand account

Bearded Roy Downs of Milton, who writes for the Milton Champion and Acton Free Press, was able to get a seat on the bus to Ottawa with the Halton delegation and saw first-hand the demonstrations which led up to the unruly mob demonstration before the locked gates of our country's staid old Parliament Buildings. His stories are highlighted in today's Free Press.

Sidewalk laid; parking lot paved at arena

Paving of the extended parking lot at the community centre began Tuesday. The lot will be extended over the one end of the race track, and cars will not be permitted into the park itself for a trial period this summer.

A stone trail will be built for pedestrians from the Park Ave. sidewalk to the arena door. A new flagpole is painted ready to go up.

Other improvement underway this week is the laying of a cement sidewalk from Bowler Ave. to the new hydro building.



CEREMONIAL TREE PLANTING ceremony is performed by chairman of the library board George Lee with Cub Gerard Van Opstal assisting and Cub Jeff Patterson delivers a presentation address. Mayor Les Duby and board member Fred New

wield spades while Rev. Ritchie McMurray dedicated the spreading birch. A Pack, Wolf Cubs, under Akela Dorothy Jordan and Baloo Mrs. Bob Grant presented the gift to the library. (Staff Photo)

Seek arena, parks manager to replace recreation director

Crowded by two other municipal meetings out of the council chamber, members of the parks and recreation board finally met last Thursday evening in the fire hall. The roller skating program had already driven them out of the community centre.

Disturbed only by the occasional bleeps from the firefighters' radio-communications system, the board's agenda ranged from immediate tasks to long range plans, and lasted until after 11 o'clock.

Chairman John Goy presided over the meeting attended by members Mrs. H. Otterbein, Brendan Aherne, Sonny Townsley, Earl Masales, Ted Tyler Jr., secretary Art Cooper and recreation director Howard Pearce.

With Mr. Pearce's resignation in their hands, main item on the board's mind was to find a replacement as soon as possible. Mr. Pearce is leaving June 2 — this Friday — to take a recreation post in Kingston.

Whether to hire another recreation director, or whether the board would do better to hire a combined arena manager and park superintendent was discussed.

Two committee members, Mr. Goy and Mr. Aherne, had already attended a meeting of

the administrative committee of council; this group and later council itself gave approval to the recreation and park committee making the change.

It was decided to advertise twice for an arena and parks manager. Applications are to be in before the evening of June 8, when a special meeting of the administrative committee of the board will be held.

During the discussion before the motion was passed, Mr. Goy recalled that recreation directors, following a two year university course, are mostly asking \$6,000 or up. "We have

to weigh if Acton can afford it." "If we feel the biggest part of our recreation comes from our arena and park, then perhaps the arena manager and park superintendent could do the job."

Added Mr. Aherne, "We need both, but we need an arena manager more." Mr. Tyler agreed, "we need a worker more than an organizer... most organizations can get the ball rolling and take care of themselves... I think Howard should be commended, but I don't think we need a recreation director."

"Our biggest problem is curling ice," said Mr. Townsley. "This can only diminish," said Mr. Goy. "We must put up with it."

About \$800 in provincial grants would be lost with the change in administration, but a grant of \$600 is still available.

Milton operates under the system being planned for Acton, with former Actonian Larry Arbic the arena manager there.

"If we operate efficiently, without loss of revenue, who is in charge is not serious," commented Mr. Goy.

With the resignation of secretary-treasurer Art Cooper in their hands as well, the board

Students off on Expo trip

Eighty high school students leave for Expo June 14 and return to Acton June 21. It was teacher Bill Coats who first stimulated interest in the local students joining the Elmvale Plan, which is organizing Expo accommodation for hundreds of high school students all across Canada.

Teachers going with the students are Mike Bevan, Ian McGillivray, Mrs. Laszlo, Miss Atkey and Mrs. Walker.

Y's Men's auction raises nearly \$400

Nearly \$400 was cleared by the Y's Men when they again held their very popular auction sale. It was in the community centre on Saturday afternoon, and attendance was as high as 500 at the peak hours.

Auctioneer Jack Holmes was assisted by veteran Roy Hind-

ley for a while. Mr. Hindley recalled when the Y's Men first began their annual project 17 or 18 years ago.

All the members of the club assisted, along with willing volunteers from the Y's Menettes, a few wives and young people and other adults who simply offered to help.

Front page editorial

Attend weekend events

This weekend is an opportunity for Actonians and former residents of town and district to renew acquaintances.

Three special community events starting with the official opening of the new centennial library, followed immediately by the official opening of the hydro building Saturday conclude Sunday afternoon with Decoration Day observances.

..... Civic pride should be manifest. These projects show an awareness on the part of citizens for the future of Acton and yet recall with reverence the part those who have gone before played in the development of town and district.

Animals bite boys at school

Two Acton boys bitten by animals were given lockjaw injections this week.

Philip Timmings was bitten by a dog at the Robert Little school grounds. Mr. Timmings was told by the Health Unit the dog had not been caught.

Michael Marchant, a grade nine student at Acton district high school, was bitten by a groundhog, he was carrying into the school last Thursday morning. Under observation the groundhog died and it is being tested for possible rabies.

Michael picked up the animal while in a search for nature classes and he went to pet it in the school. The animal's reaction was a bite.

The Ontario Safety League has issued a warning this week for everyone to avoid animal life that appears sick, abnormally friendly or aggressive. If bitten or scratched by any animal suspected of being rabid, wash affected area with soap and water immediately and consult a doctor without delay.



Terry Waterhouse Mohawk graduate

Terry Waterhouse graduated in Business Administration from Mohawk College of Applied Arts and Technology at a convocation held at McMaster University, Hamilton, May 12.

Present were his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Waterhouse and Miss Carol Swackhamer.

He has been placed in the Special Development Course, Bank of Montreal, Oshawa.

Reduce rate for township purposes but over-all tax levy is higher

Although Esqueping council managed to reduce the mill rate for township purposes from 9.13 to an even seven mills, taxpayers in the township face an increase in the mill rate this year with the exception of residents in the Milton high school area.

Council unanimously passed the 1967 budget at a special meeting on Wednesday night after a two hour session reviewing the proposed figures submitted by the township auditor.

Councillor C. F. (Pat) Patterson told the press "through a combination of good management and economy there is a reduction in the township mill rate. However, taxes for school purposes have put the overall rate higher."

Ratepayers in the Milton high school area actually will enjoy a better than two mill reduction because of a drop in

the high school levy. The industrial and commercial rate shows little change in that area.

(Complete resume of the budget is reproduced elsewhere.)

A reduction in the rate for township purposes was opposed by Councillor Patterson who argued ratepayers want better roads and they were prepared to pay for them. "I'm not going to soft pedal anything, I think the rate should stay at 9.13," he said.

Deputy - Reeve George Currie spearheaded the opposition which urged close adherence to the auditor's figures, but later made a concession to Mr. Patterson by raising the rate for township purposes by .76 mills so an extra \$8,841.46 could be raised for road purposes.

The extra, combined with an additional \$6,500.00 already

pin pointed for roads, makes a total of \$15,341.46 and allows for road expenditures of \$30,682.92 over the amount of the present approved by-law.

This, most councillors felt, was adequate for additional road expenditure this year although there was also some doubt about whether the Department would approve the full amount. "Last year," said Mr. Currie, "we asked for \$25,000 extra and we got \$15,000. This year we're asking for \$33,000."

Total expenditure on roads would amount to \$147,682.82 — if the additional request is granted by the Department.

Members reviewed the Esqueping rate and credited increased per capita grants from the province which amounted to almost \$10,000, with helping to lower the rate. The public school board's requisition was also reduced \$33,888.

to \$251,477. from \$285,385, which also affected the mill rate considerably. Councillor Patterson said he was opposed to lowering the rate for township purposes when everyone wanted better roads, but further discussion partially convinced him the additional .76 mills would be likely not all passed by the Department. "Everybody in your area will tell you the township roads are in bad shape," charged Mr. Patterson. "We're already counting on \$33,000 over and above the by-law," countered Councillor Tom Hill. "That will bring road spending to almost \$150,000," said clerk K. C. Lindsay. "If the Department lets it through," George Currie reminded him.

All citizens invited

Library, hydro building openings Saturday, decoration day Sunday

Ont. Hydro chairman is speaker

The chairman of Ontario Hydro, George Gathercole, will be among the special guests of honor at the official opening of the new Alice St. hydro building. The ceremony will see the culmination of long-time hopes of the hydro commission.

The program at the entrance to the spanking-clean modern new building is scheduled for 3.45 p.m. to follow the ceremonies at the library, which begin at 2.30.

Prosed hydro commission chairman Ted Tyler Sr. will welcome the anticipated crowd. Greetings will be expressed by Dr. J. D. Fleming, president of the Ontario Municipal Electrical Association, and A. Gordon Stacey, president of the Association of Municipal Electrical Utilities.

The county's two members of parliament Dr. Harry Hanley from the federal government and George Kerr from

he will give a brief address. The plaque will be unveiled by the chief librarian for many years, Mrs. Isabel Watson.

Official words of dedication will be said by the Rev. A. H. McKenzie, representing the ministerial association.

Presentation of a key will be made by the architect and contractor. Others who will likely speak briefly are Dr. Harry Harley M.P., George Kerr, M.P.P., a representative of the recently formed regional library board and architect Donald Skinner.

The band will play outdoors under the shady trees which add to the library's fortuitous location. They are scheduled to begin their concert at 2.10 p.m.

Library board members who are planning the event are chairman George Lee, Fred New, Rev. Ritchie McMurray, Ted Pratt and Mayor Les Duby, with secretary-treasurer Doug Copeland.

Librarians who will host the general public are Mrs. Watson, Miss Esther Taylor, Miss Madge Chapman, Mrs. George Williams and Mrs. Bob Drinkwater. The junior librarians will be serving coffee and doughnuts to all the guests.

Former librarians, library board members and members of the original centennial project committee have been sent invitations to attend.

Decoration Day here on Sunday

The annual decoration day service this Sunday afternoon will follow the same pattern as in previous years. A large crowd of visitors, former residents and Actonians is again expected to share in the outdoor interdenominational service and then to assist in planting geraniums at graves.

Many bouquets are placed in the cemeteries prior to the service each year.

Graves in St. Joseph's cemetery, Fairview cemetery and the pioneer cemetery are annually decorated. Designated graves are planted with a bright red geranium by members of some of the sponsoring organizations.

William Nicolak is parade marshal again this year, and two bands will be included, Acton Citizens' Band and the Guelph Pipe Band.

The service in the sunny meadow at the entrance to Fairview cemetery is expected



PREVIEW OF A COLORFUL and interesting display of arts and crafts which will be shown at the Robert Little school auditorium Thursday afternoon and evening. All grades, the home economics and industrial arts classes are contributing selections for the display which will fill most of the auditorium. (Staff Photo)

(Continued on Page 10)

(Continued on Page 10)

(Continued on Page 3)