

# Centennial inter-faith service draws crowd

A 150-voice choir, full band and organ led in the singing and Acton's clergy all took part in the centennial inter-faith service Sunday afternoon in the community centre. Attendance estimated ran as high as 1,000 with family groups from all denominations and many visitors present.

The guest speaker was a former district resident, the Rev. John Wadke, and with him on the specially-decorated platform were Rev. V. J. Morgan, Rev. A. E. McKenna, Rev. Ritchie McHurray, Rev. Stanley Gannon, Rev. S. M. Thomas and Rev. Gordon Turner.

A service of worship prepared by the Canadian Council of Churches for use in centennial year was followed including universally-used hymns O God Our Help in Ages Past, Faith of our Fathers, Praise My Soul the King of Heaven and O Canada, followed by Lord of the Lords.

Mrs. Frank Oakes played the organ, and Dr. George Elliott directed both Acton Citizens' Band and the massed choir from all churches and schools.

Wearing their own choir gowns of black, white or white, the choristers surrounded the Acton Legion Choristers in their gold jackets to make a striking section which filled the front section of the arena stands. The combined effect of the instruments and soaring voices was very impressive.

The Choristers again sang Hymn to Canada, composed by Actonian Herman Freuler in appreciation for Canada and his life here. George Muscille directed the choir.

The choir's first anthem, O How Amiable by Ralph Vaughan Williams, was originally composed for a pageant put on to raise money for the restoration of a small church in Surrey in 1934. Through Mrs. Vaughan Williams and Oxford University press, the band was able to obtain the original band accompaniment and the anthem was heard in its original setting for the first time since 1934.

The second anthem, Canada Dear Home, was composed by Canadian Keith Bissell with band accompaniment especially for use in centennial services.

The band played a prelude of selections, "Classical Gallery" including Caarons by J. Pachelbel; Minuet by J. S. Bach, Sarabande by G. F. Handel and Pantomime from Alceste by C. W. Gluck; the Negro spiritual Were You There When They Crucified My Lord and selected favorite hymns, followed by Psalm and Air by Benedetto Marcello.

Mr. Wadke in his address, recalled his youth on a farm near Acton. A lot from the farm was sold for \$1 to provide land for Dublin School.

He named some of the excellent teachers who influenced so many Actonians, Miss Daisy Fol-

ster, Miss Isabel Anderson, Miss Nellie Anderson, Miss M.Z. Bennett, Miss Pearl Baker, W. H. Stewart and others.

What influences made the early people of Acton the fine people they were? He cited the home, the school, the community and the church and urged parents to continue the most vital training of children.

He predicted a vast city throughout this district a century from now.

The Y's Men assisted in preparing for the service and with bringing chairs from the schools, and the Firefighters ushered.

The offering was used to cover expenses.

Flowers at the front of the church were given to the oldest lady present, Mrs. James Sayers, a relative of Rev. Wadke's.

Many remained afterward to chat with the speaker and other visitors, to comment most favourably on the unique service and especially the music.

The new minister of the Christian Reformed Church, who was ordained the evening before, did not take part but members of the church attended.



MRS. JANE SAYERS, 86, was presented with flowers by Rev. Andrew McKenzie at the conclusion of Sunday's centennial church service for being the oldest lady present. Her nephew, Rev. John Waldie, right, preached at the service and D. D. Waldie, left, another relative, attended. (Staff Photo)

# Assessment commission proposal is turned down

Hopes of inaugurating assessment commissioner system in Halton were dashed Friday, when Halton County Council by an 18-13 recorded vote rejected the proposal.

Councillors, even those strongly opposed to the system, nevertheless left the door open for such a move in the future. The present state of indecision over regional government was blamed for the majority decision to drop the subject, for the time being at least.

Burlington and Oakville representatives to County Council were strongly against adopting the county assessment commissioner system, although they admitted the plan would have some merits.

"The system is superior to anything we can do individually," chimed in Reeve H. H. Hinton of Acton. He suggested if councillors waited for regional government before they took any progressive steps, there would never be any improvements. He also cited the need for additional accommodation for aged citizens as another project that might be held up waiting for regional government.

Reeve Hinto added a charge that the majority of Burlington's councillors are "oriented towards Hamilton," and were afraid to vote as they felt. "It is time county councillors stood up and were counted on what they think is best for the county," rather than a vote as directed by their own municipal councils, he said. His charges were hotly denied by Burlington representatives.

merits in a regionalized government set-up. "We don't find much wrong with the proposed system, we just don't think it is feasible at this time," said Burlington's Deputy-Reeve Frank Rogers.

Oakville Deputy-Reeve Alan Day echoed the same sentiments. "Oakville is not particularly against it, but we should not be doing any broadening of county services until the province comes down with some answers to regional government," he said.

Milton and Acton delegates argued for the adoption of the system. Deputy-Reeve Charles McNeff, Milton, suggested council was "retarding progress" if it held up the adoption of the system — "we all realize it is an eventuality, why wait until it is pressed upon you," he wanted to know.

The Acton Reeve sat down with a final volley, charging the southern councillors with using a "parochial approach" instead of thinking of the good of the whole county. Earlier in the meeting he had levelled the same charge in the same direction when a lively discussion was held over a new home for the aged.

Warden William Coulter, Nassagaweya's Reeve, warned the councillors a more equal system of assessing would have to be adopted before the county could progress in many other fields. Welfare, education, planning and assessment would be at a standstill until the entire county adopted a uniform system of assessing properties, he said. The vote was finally called. Oakville and Burlington representatives and Deputy-Reeve George Currie of Esquesing favored the motion calling for the county to reject the scheme. The opposition was registered with Acton, Georgetown and Milton's delegates, Warden Coulter and Esquesing Reeve George Leslie, all of whom said they favored immediate adoption of the system.

# Township cannot stop man using garage for residence

New houses, garages and trailers came in for more discussion at a meeting of Esqueping Township Council on Monday, when a man asked for permission to live in a garage near Limehouse until he can build a house on the property.

While councillors recognized the need for some form of zoning by-law to prevent such a thing from happening, they had to admit they were stymied by his request. Legally, the township cannot prevent him from obtaining a building permit for a garage, and there is nothing on the books to say the man cannot live in the garage.

The applicant, Ralph Hollis, was quite open and honest about the request. He said he was being married shortly and wanted to build a 2 by 22 foot garage to tide him over until he could get his house under construction. He even offered to sign an agreement including a date when he would be obliged to vacate the garage.



Bobor Bobby Dowdell

Council was against his idea of living in the garage, but had no legal grounds to stop him. Instead, they suggested he would be better to build the basement of the house, roof it over and live in it; or rent a trailer in which he could live on the property.

"Your mistake was in being too honest," summed up Councillor Tom Hill. He said the man could have built a garage and moved in, and the township could not stop him.

"We haven't got a leg to stand on," added Councillor Pat Patterson, but he hoped the man would do "the right thing" for the sake of the rest of the township residents.

"Let's not make fish of one and fowl of the other," continued Councillor Hill. "We let people build a cellar and live in it for five years before they build a house over it. We let them live in trailers, some without a fee. Why stop this man from living in a garage?"

The applicant was urged to check with the Health Unit and see if the inspectors would approve residence in the garage. Meanwhile, the council is calling in its solicitor to see what can be done.

Members were generally in agreement that a zoning by-law was needed.

## Golf party

Jack Lush, Liberal candidate for Halton West, hosted a dinner and golf tournament at the Burlington Springs Golf and Country Club Tuesday. The event was part of Mr. Lush's campaign for the October 17 election.

The event was sponsored by the Halton West Liberal Association and was open to the general public as well as association members and local Liberals.

One way to keep people from jumping down your throat is to keep your mouth shut.

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# Thank You

We wish to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped to make Acton's Centennial Year Fall Fair an event we were proud to be part of.

The opening parade of floats, bands and convertibles, and the exhibit of livestock, home produce and commercial products was a fitting tribute to 100 years of co-operation and progress of Acton and its adjoining Townships.

It is impossible to mention all those who provided entertainment, financial assistance and donations. We can only say, thank you all.

We would, however, like to say a special thank you to Mr. Harold Townsley and staff of the arena for their courteous assistance at all times and to those who prepared the arena for the church service on Sunday afternoon.

To the Acton Ministerial Association for arranging the church service, a truly fitting climax to Acton's Centennial weekend. To you all, our grateful thanks.

JACK MARSHALL, President

Acton Fall Fair Board.

IRENE SWACKHAMER, Sec.-Treas.

# Five entrants survive in beard contest

Entries weren't many but the centennial beard contest went on at the fair as planned by the Y's Men's club last spring. Many were the men who began the project, but by September the numbers were trimmed down to five entrants.

First place in six different categories went (by a hair) to Gary Esteman for the brightest

and best shaped; Dorcas Friswell for the longest; Wayne Kelly for the best groomed; Marvin Hunter for the busiest and John Morvat for the goatee.

Judging the ticklish situation were two fair lady directors, Mrs. George Wallace and Mrs. C. Storey, with Dave Dills, Cash prizes were awarded.

Mr. Friswell and Mr. Kelly were the "Smith Brothers" who pulled the old fire pumper in the parade earlier in the day.

A woman will spend \$5 for a pair of stockings to give the impression she's not wearing any.

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