

The Acton Free Press

Ninety-Third Year—No. 18.

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1967

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Sixteen Pages—Ten Cents.

Council accepts Zorge bid to renovate town offices

Following a report from architect Donald Skinner who termed extensive renovation to the old town hall "impractical", Acton Council passed a motion to accept the tender of Zorge Construction for renovation to the present town offices at the Y.M.C.A. at a price of \$22,885.

The motion passed, at Monday's meeting with Councillor Ted Tyler the only one opposing. Mr. Tyler opposed town offices in the Y from the time he started serving on council.

Number one committee first brought a recommendation to council in February of this year that they proceed with plans to renovate the offices in the Y. Estimated price at that time was \$14,000 but bids submitted called for much more.

The renovations have been a thorny subject since they were first proposed and high tender prices induced council to ask Mr. Skinner, the architect, to conduct a survey of the old town hall to see if Mr. Tyler's suggestions for its use were feasible. Mayor Doby objected claiming time and money were being wasted.

Clerk-administrator J. McGeachie said there was immense dissatisfaction with working conditions in present cramped quarters.

Mr. Skinner appeared before council Monday with his report on the old town hall. He, another architect and an engineer inspected it and found the brick around windows was eroded and would require considerable money to repair cracks.

Other points: the furnace could not be used to heat the second floor; problems with the electrical systems; wood framing makes a high fire risk; second floor wiring is obsolete; window frames and sashings needs replacing; all existing finishes on the second floor would have to be removed leaving only a shell.

Mr. Skinner advised council a new building would be much more practical.

Deputy-reeve F. Oakes agreed. Councillor Tyler admitted he was disappointed in the report. "It's been long awaited but I'm glad it is in the open. It saves supposing. I'll have to go along with what the architect says."

A question period called by committee of the whole chairman Bob Drinkwater found Mr. Tyler quizzing the architect on the feasibility of tearing the present building down for a new one.

Mr. Skinner suggested a new site with adequate parking would be more suitable. Councillor Tyler said perhaps houses near the old town hall could be purchased and expand from the present site. The architect said it was a reasonable suggestion. He felt renovations at the Y.M.C.A. were only stop gap measures to last from five to 10 years. He recommended council chambers and administration offices should be in one building.

"Don't you think \$22,000 is a lot of money for only five year's

use?" Mr. Tyler asked the architect.

Mr. Oakes retorted the sum would not seem so much when it was amortized. He, with other councillors, objected to asking the architect for an answer to a question which was up to council to decide.

Diplomas, new awards high school

Thirteen honor graduation diplomas will be presented grade 13 graduates Friday evening at high school commencement.

A record number of awards for academic standing will fill the evening's program, and the guest speaker will be the Rev. Canon John Botwell. Rita McCrea was chosen to give the valedictory address on behalf of the graduates.

In the spring, many additional awards were added to the usual list of prizes and scholarships. Local merchants and firms, when contacted by the high school guidance department, indicated their willingness to participate in the expanded program.

Susan Perry will thank the speaker, while Anne Shortill will speak, while Anne Shortill will speak, while Anne Shortill will speak.

(Continued on Page 2)

Council decides

Conditional occupancy in Lakeview houses

Conditional certificates of occupancy for some houses built in Lakeview subdivision by the Rubin Corporation will be issued by the clerk but they'll be subject to close scrutiny to see if all adhere to town regulations.

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Council has no objections to variances for builder

Council will raise no objection to application for variances to the Committee of Adjustment for the Rubin Corporation it was decided Monday.

After a long discussion on the subject of the Lakeview houses council passed a resolution on the subject with Councillor Bob Drinkwater and Earl Masales opposed. A delegation of Mayor Doby, Reeve Hinton and the clerk-administrator will acquaint the Committee of Adjustment with council's opinion on the variances.

Mr. Livesay of the Rubin Corporation told council his company had built hundreds of houses and

"I want him to help me make up my mind," answered Tyler.

More discussion centered on the possibility of regional government stepping in and improvements being wasted but the subject switched to the tender price again with Councillor Tyler restating he didn't think it was a small amount.

The architect said \$20,000 seems like a lot but the renovation could do for 10 years. For \$18,000 you'd be sacrificing quality for a short term. The extra is not a large sum and could be the difference between shoddy and attractive. He felt council should begin looking for a new site.

"It's like a pair of shoes," said the mayor, "For \$18 you get something you don't want and \$20 will give you something you're looking for."

Chairman Drinkwater inquired if any thought had been given to using the top part of the Y for council chambers and was answered in the negative.

Councillor Tyler said the Y parking created a problem but the deputy-reeve pointed out parking now was divided between the town hall and town offices.

Reeve Hinton remarked that off-street parking "when we come up with it will be something wonderful for Acton."

"Has there been any discussion on using the Y as it is," asked Councillor Masales. "We're paying rent for it."

"No," answered the reeve, "but if council doesn't approve the renovations tonight, we should!"

"If we wait another year the cost could be \$30,000," stated Councillor Drinkwater. "Putting projects off only adds to cost."

"We can make a decision now, I can't see it any other way," emphasized the deputy-reeve.

A motion to accept the Zorge tender passed with Councillor Tyler opposed.

When will the renovated building be finished? "By January 30," stated Mr. Skinner, "with no interruptions to office routine."

Foresee record total in UNICEF collections

Total collected on Hallowe'en for UNICEF is going to be well above last year's \$321.

Money turned in at the three depots was all transported to be counted at the Y, and \$270 was rolled last night. However, due to bad weather, about 100 boxes are still outstanding and will be turned in at school.

The amount made in the Robert



WEARY AFTER THEIR 27-mile jaunt from Orangeville in the Robert Little school's marathon walk for UNICEF are these trio of first place finishers who took only seven hours to hike the distance. Right is John Van Dam,

a lightweight, who first stepped back into the school, middle is Charlie McGinn who arrived on John's heels and left is Robert Speaker who wasn't far behind. Story and more pictures inside. (Staff Photo)

15-minute postponed meeting

After four minutes of the postponed council meeting Tuesday evening, Reeve Bert Hinton—still in hat and coat—moved adjournment.

The motion had to hang for 11 minutes of usual enquiries by members before it passed and the meeting was over.

The brief second session of the regular meeting was followed by a short committee meeting.

During the regular meeting, two accounts were authorized, one for the preparation of jurors' lists and one to the band for the urban board luncheon.

Enquiries brought a speedy review of potholes, low manholes and a pile of dirt, all of which have been or will soon be taken care of.

Mayor Doby asked members to think about the town hall washrooms facilities for future action. ... and that was the end of it all.

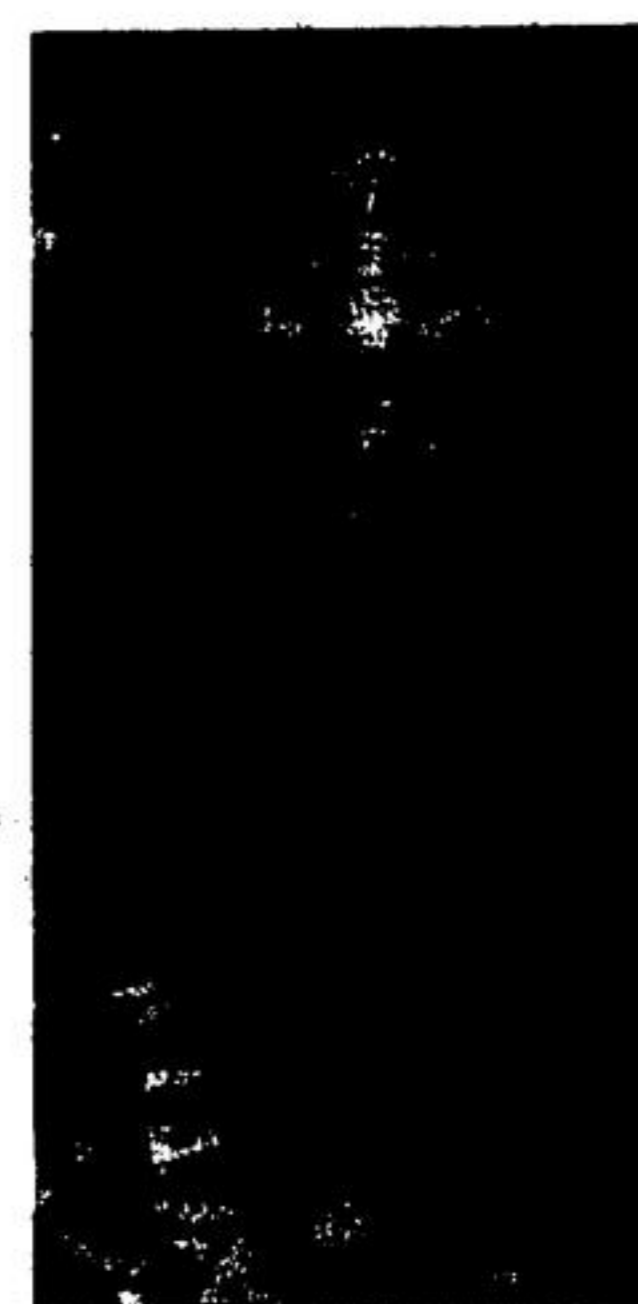
Find stolen car in Port Colborne

A car exchange in Acton by two Port Colborne youths resulted in their arrest and charges.

The two youths ditched their vehicle on Highway 25 north of town, and probably walked into town. The vehicle was found by police and towed into a local garage.

Don Moffat, R.R. 2, Rockwood, left his car, with the boys in it, for a repair job at Highway Garage in Acton, and it vanished. He reported the theft to Acton police who put the two incidents together and contacted Port Colborne. Their theory proved correct, and the Rockwood car was recovered in Port Colborne.

Cons. McArthur, Kreseler and Campbell were all involved in the occurrence. Cons. Campbell went to Port Colborne to lay the charge.



SAY BUDDY, can you spare a penny for UNICEF?

Sound Last Post

Observe Remembrance Day this Sunday at cenotaph

Again this year the town's Remembrance Day service will be held on the Sunday morning preceding November 11, so more people can participate.

The parade will leave the Legion hall at 10.30 a.m. this Sunday, November 5, for the service at the cenotaph at 10.45 a.m. Gordon James, Legion president will give the Legion charge.

Wreaths will be placed, John McHugh will read the names from the cenotaph, the Last Post and Reveille will be sounded by W.D. E. Smith, and benediction said by Rev. A.H. McKenzie, the Legion padre.

The band will accompany the singing of a verse of Abide with

Me. The service in the adjoining United church will commence at 11.15.

The wreaths to be placed are now in the usual Remembrance window at Acton Home Furnishings store. They circle replicas of the cenotaph bearing the names of servicemen who lost their lives in action.

Billy Middleton was assisted in preparing the impressive display by Jim Higgins and Charlie Thompson.

Acton Legion Choristers will be singing at Brookville, Sunday afternoon, and Erin Sunday night. Acton Legion also participates in Remembrance Day services at Brookville and Rockwood.

for variances on houses which don't comply to the by-law. Mr. Livesay of the Rubin

Corporation and solicitor Robt. Swazze appeared before council requesting the town issue certificates because they had people ready to move in on the first of November. They had made application for 10 certificates. Three in front of the Committee of Adjustment for side yard variances, are being held up.

Questioned about drainage, the builder said sump pumps were being installed in all houses in wet areas. It was planned to do so in the beginning but the company had some bad advice on the matter.

"Are there just three minor variances in the houses?" asked Reeve Hinton.

Clerk J. McGeachie said the majority of houses would require a variance.

Discussion on why the houses were built requiring a variance when the builder was aware of restrictions in Acton got a lengthy explanation from Mr. Livesay. The clerk explained plot and building plans shown to him do not show the eaves and this is where the company went wrong.

"Normally these plans don't show the eaves," said Mr. Livesay. "It's usually not a problem. This is the only municipality where we've run into it."

"We were just plain stupid," he continued. "Plans were drawn without considering the eaves. Four of the plans were designed to take in account the 60 foot frontage on lots in town. If the point had been known it could have been built in a saved us a lot of trouble."

Mr. Livesay said the company wanted to build many more houses in Acton without conflicting with the by-law. He said the new by-law passed by council does not have the eaves prohibition in it.

"No company in its right mind would bring this onto himself," the builder told council.

Councillor G. McKenzie asked if a minor variance requested against a property could be held against it permanently. Company solicitor Swazze said no.

Councillor Earl Masales said he couldn't understand how people in his neighborhood who've been trying to build garages for years are refused, yet a builder comes along and does it.

"It's a different aspect of the by-law," said the mayor. The clerk said in one case in Mr. Masales area there was an appeal. (Continued on Page 2)



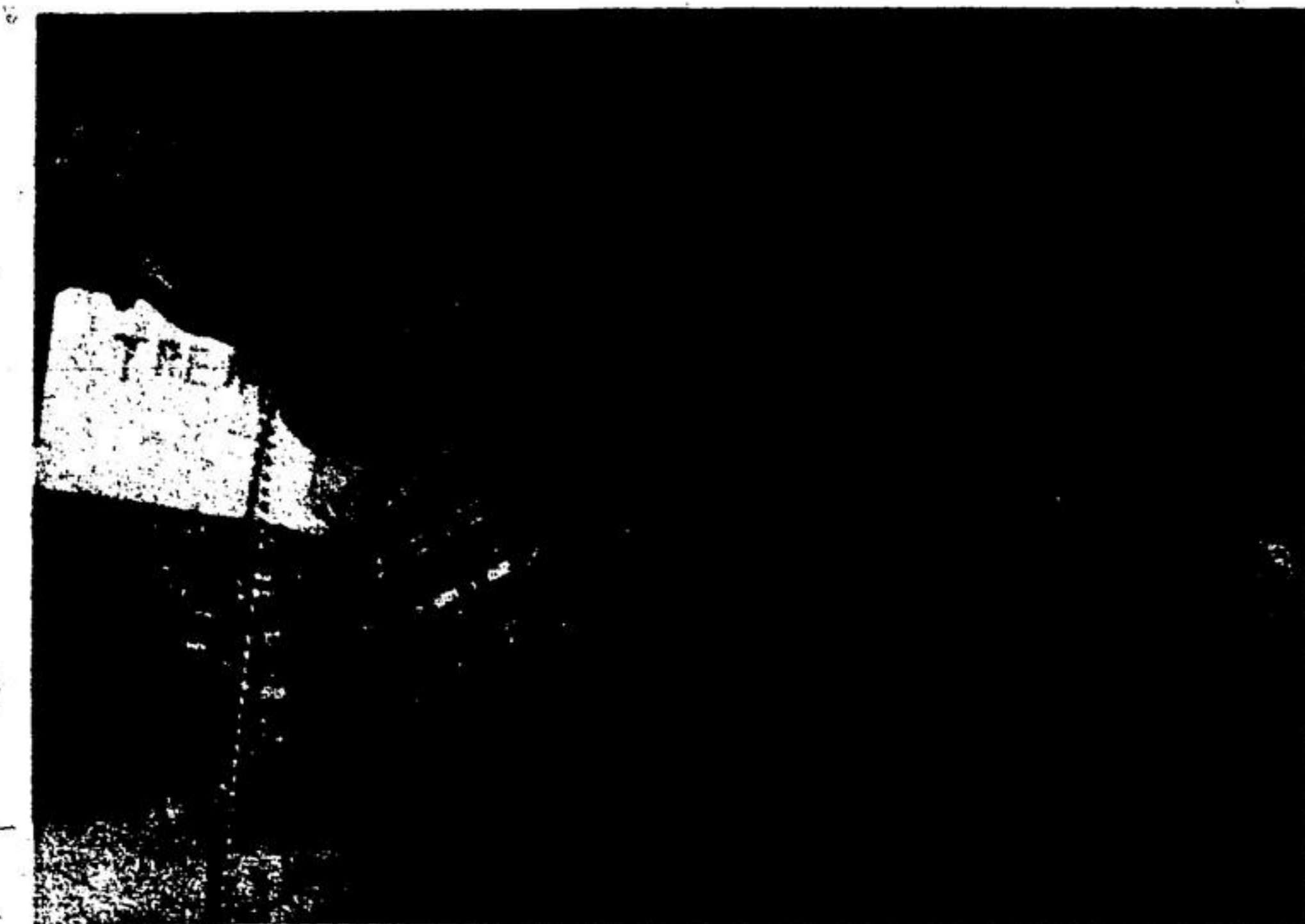
Boo, I'm a ghost!

Hunter shot by cousin

A Toronto hunter received a painful eye injury on the weekend when his cousin, hunting for partridge in the north end of Nassagaweya Township, accidentally shot him.

Milton O.P.P. said a shotgun pellet struck Remo Chivilo of Lawnside Dr., Toronto, in the corner of the left eye. He was rushed to Georgetown hospital where he was treated by Dr. R. D. Engelbrecht, then transferred to the Toronto Western hospital for an operation to remove the pellet. It was not known whether or not the man's sight would be lost, depending on the results of the operation a police spokesman said.

The incident happened in Lot 22, Concession 6, Nassagaweya Township. Several residents of Esquesing and Nassagaweya Townships have reported indiscriminate shooting in the past week or so, O.P.P. said. (Staff Photo)



"US DOGS HAS GOT to stick together on this Hallowe'en kick", says Buster to his companion Bandit as they toured houses in Acton last night on a trick or treat basis. Buster belongs

to Mr. and Mrs. F. New, Elmore Drive and his small companion is the pet of Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Conroy, on the same street.



ALL SHAPES, SIZES AND FACES called on Acton and district homes last night asking residents to shell out. Full shopping bags and

other containers are a sure harbinger of stomach aches to come. (Staff Photo)