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ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1968

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Special meeting of council clears up ends for new year

So decks could be cleared for a new year of business, Acton council held a special meeting last Wednesday night.

Dealt with were several items of business which included a resolution on low rental housing, appointments, payments and decisions on tenders for demolishing a barn owned by the town and a new tractor-dumper for the town dump.

The latter was dealt with first and council accepted the tender of Truck and Tractor Co. for a John Deere machine for the dump at a cost of \$12,088. Eight bids were submitted.

Car hit by train youth is killed

Funeral service is being held today (Wednesday) for David McLellan, 17, who was killed last Sunday morning when the car he was driving was struck by a train. He is the son of fruit farmer John McLellan, formerly of Acton, and Mrs. McLellan of R.R. 5, Hamilton.

The youth was returning home at 1:30 a.m. when his car was struck by a train in Saltfleet township just half a mile from his home. He was alone in the car.

He is survived by his parents, sisters Lois and Joan and brother Frank. Mrs. J. Jacques of Acton (the former Helen McLellan) is an aunt.

Funeral service is at the Donald Brown funeral home, Stony Creek.

Town staff presentation

Bill Sheppard, who has retired from the town staff, was a special guest at the works department's Christmas get-together at the pump house. Mr. Sheppard began work with the town crew in 1956. He was presented with a wallet on retirement and other mementos by Mayor Les Duby, clerk-administrator Jack McGeachie, superintendent Alf Duby and councillor Bob Drinkwater.

Big burn-up Saturday night

A farewell to Christmas, New Year's and even to the whole year-long centennial celebrations will be said around a blazing fire this Saturday evening, January 6.

Occasion: the annual Chamber of Commerce Christmas tree burning, and mayor Les Duby is all set to light the fire at 7:30 p.m.

Chamber members will serve coffee and doughnuts to everyone who comes for the big burn-up in the field just north of the town dump on Churchill Road South.

The trees will be picked up Friday heaped onto the evergreen mountain ready for Twelfth Night. In past years the occasion has drawn a large crowd, with refreshments dispensed from a truck and the firefighters on duty.

Quiet New Year in Acton

Quiet, broken only by the pealing of church bells and muted celebrations from private homes, ushered little Mr. 1968 into Acton.

Police were delighted. "Most people must be using good common sense," they observed.

Acton and district people celebrated at the Legion hall and the music centre where gala New Year's Eve parties attracted capacity crowds.

Most people, however, quietly celebrated at home or attended private parties.

Mayor Les Duby reported to council the recent survey of the Ontario Housing Corporation for low rental homes for senior citizens in Acton didn't reveal a true picture. Some of the senior citizens eligible did not fill out questionnaires, others did not understand the meaning of the forms. He urged council to assign a committee to deal directly with the golden agers.

A motion passed requesting the O. H. C. to provide rental housing accommodation on a geared-to-income basis for senior citizens, to be comprised of four bachelor and two one-bedroom units as indicated in the survey dated in November. In addition, the welfare committee of council was authorized to look after the program for senior citizens' housing.

Clerk administrator Jack Mc-

Geachie was instructed to conduct a survey for senior citizens' housing which could be followed by an application for additional housing if the survey shows a need.



GEORGE LEE was installed as 1968 master of Walker Lodge last Wednesday night. Other officers are shown inside.

Repeat winner in store draw

The big stuffed giraffe in Acton Pharmacy's Christmas draw was won by Dennis Mitchell—the same boy who won last year's toy! The road race set was won by Barbara Pratt.

Throughout the year, pharmacist Bill Yundt and his staff estimate they have given out about 50 special colored certificates for babies born during centennial year.

Pick on "Miss"

Three phone calls bank inspector fraud

Three known attempts at the "bank inspector fraud" were reported by police this past week.

Three persons were contacted by phone, Dec. 29 and all three promptly called their bank manager or police to report the suspicious call.

All three were listed as "Miss" in the Acton phone book.

The caller said he would phone back but did not, so the police were unable to make further contact.

One woman went to a different phone to report the call, which police commented was wise.

The three were asked to assist a so-called bank inspector.

Appointment of R. R. Parson to the Credit Valley Conservation Authority was confirmed although Reeve Hinton made a motion this appointment and another to Committee of Adjustment be tabled for study by the administration committee. The mayor reported he received a call from the C.U.C.A. chairman enquiring about the Acton appointment and council acted but left the vacancy on the Committee of Adjustment to be filled in January.

Council authorized payment of financial statement number 12A of \$1,178.37, also approved payment of \$1,613.57 for watermain construction from Churchill Rd. to Yonge St.

Five replies were received to an advertisement for demolishing a barn owned by the town on the former Hubnagel farm. Four

of the replies agreed to knock the barn down at cost to the town ranging from \$490 to \$8,700.

One applicant, that of M. McIsaac of R.R. 4, Acton, agreed to pay the town \$41 for the privilege of demolishing the barn. Council accepted his offer.

The highest bid drew stares of disbelief and a reassurance from the clerk that his figures were right.

Final item on the agenda was a resolution that council accept the recommendations of the planning consultants regarding the coming by-law. An Ontario Municipal Board hearing to hear the proposed new zoning by-law will be held in the council chambers starting at 11 a.m. Wednesday, January 3.

Mayor Les Duby presided at the special meeting attended by the entire council.

Couple, two children escape from blazing home on 25 sideroad

Mr. and Mrs. William Parsons and their two children aged four and six months, escaped from their blazing home on No. 25 sideroad, two miles south of Acton early Friday morning before flames enveloped the house.

Flames, caused by spilled oil igniting under an oil burner, gutted the kitchen and living room and crept up the partitions of the old log home before breaking through the roof.

Smoke and water damage in the dwelling was extensive and flames charred the upstairs. No estimate has been made of damages.

Mr. Parsons and his wife fled when they first noticed the flames, carried the children outside, and returned for clothing. They are staying with relatives.

Acton Firefighters responded quickly to the fire call at 12:15 a.m. in freezing temperatures. The fire was difficult to fight as

aluminum siding covered the old log exterior. However, firefighters had flames under control in about an hour's time and stayed until 3:30 a.m. to make sure the fire was out.

Two trucks were used to fight the blaze, one carrying water from the town watermain. Smoke ejectors were hooked up to a portable generator and cleared smoke away so firefighters could get inside the house and extinguish flames embedded deep in log partitions.

The house is located on the old Packer farm.



ACTON FIREFIGHTERS had a difficult time extinguishing the blaze which broke out in the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Parsons on 25 Sideroad, south of Acton. Mr. and Mrs. Parsons and their two children escaped unhurt when oil ignited and gutted the inside of the log structure, covered with aluminum siding. (Staff Photo)

Press announcement "premature"

Board rescinds original motion to abandon stone school rooms

Cyril Bishop, last year's vice-chairman, was named public school board chairman for 1968 at the board's inaugural meeting Tuesday evening in the Robert Little school staff room. Vic Bristow was named vice-chairman.

Since the board is continuing its two year term, no oath of office was administered but board secretary Billy Middleton began the year with prayer.

Bill Benson has resigned from the board, but no replacement has been named by the board as yet and the subject was not discussed during the regular meeting.

Present were trustees Bishop, Bristow, Doug Manning, Orval Chapman, and Murray Smith.

with the secretary and both principals.

Mr. Middleton declared Mr. Bishop duly installed and presented him with the gavel as he installed him in the chair. After Mr. Bishop promised to "try to give the leadership the office requires," Mr. Middleton handed out new agenda folders to members to start the year.

Routine duties to begin the year included re-engaging the secretary-treasurer Mr. Middleton, adopting the salary schedule for secretaries and caretakers; naming the regular meeting date as the first Tuesday of the month, excepting July and August, at alternate public schools.

Committees named were: finance,

Smith and Chapman; property, Manning and Bristow. Mr. Bishop will be chairman of the management committee with all members of the board.

This is the last year of the present school board system. A new area board will include Acton schools in 1969.

Minutes were read of a special board meeting on December 20 at which a previous motion to abandon rooms in the stone school preparatory to applying for the M.Z. Bennett addition, was rescinded. (The original motion was reported in the Free Press account of the regular December meeting, and the press was unaware of the special meeting.)

The minutes revealed the full

board met December 20 with area supervisor McNeill, who had been in touch with clerk administrator Jack McGeachie. A survey was made extending to 1972. A motion passed that the pertinent resolution, relating to the stone school, be rescinded.

Subsequently the sketch plan of the school addition was accepted and the application to the Department was sent immediately for approval.

At the regular meeting Tuesday, new chairman Bishop said the press report was premature and led to a misunderstanding.

He referred briefly to a discussion on the matter at council, said the position with new homes had changed and concluded, "I feel no one can question the board's thinking when they ask for the new facilities."

When final approval of the \$300,000 general contract is received the board will meet with council and tenders will be called.

The addition is to include four classrooms, a gym-auditorium, washrooms and supply room. Cost is estimated at \$20 a foot.

A motion was passed concerning the wages of supply teachers, as they were not included in the 1967-1968 schedule.

The minimum salary for a supply teacher increased to \$24 a day from \$20 a day beginning this January.

A supply teacher who teaches more than two consecutive days will, after the original two days, be paid at his or her own salary level, which takes experience into account. This second aspect of the motion is retroactive to September.

Members realized the implications of the supply teachers not being included in the new teachers' salary schedule when (Continued on Page 3)



GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY was celebrated on Wednesday evening, December 27, by Mr. and Mrs. Cam McEnery. Many relatives and friends gathered in Ballinafad community hall for the anniversary celebration. The McEnerys were married in Acton in 1917, lived here and then farmed at Ballinafad. (Staff Photo)

Mr., Mrs. C. McEnery, Ballinafad mark 50th wedding anniversary

Nearly 200 guests brought hearty congratulations to longtime residents Mr. and Mrs. Cam McEnery when they celebrated the 50th anniversary of their marriage on Wednesday evening, December 27. The occasion was marked with a reception in Ballinafad community hall, with a program followed by a dance and lunch served by the U.C.W.

Among the guests from a distance were her brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. George Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Montgomery and Mrs. David Carthers of Wingham, Mr. and Mrs. Kirby Williams and Miss Martha Orr of Cooksville.

A three-layer wedding cake was specially made for the evening.

Many gifts, cards, cut and pot flowers were given to the couple to mark the happy occasion.

Dancing was to McDougall's orchestra of Bolton.

Taking part in the musical program were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Shortill, Miss Nancy Shortill, Sandra Early, Gordon Smith and Sharon Hume. Miss Hume from Milton cleverly mixed a chorus

about the McEnerys with old-time songs to give a musical account of their courtship.

Master of Ceremonies was a nephew, Jesse McEnery.

Among the guests from a distance were her brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. George Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Montgomery and Mrs. David Carthers of Wingham, Mr. and Mrs. Kirby Williams and Miss Martha Orr of Cooksville.

A three-layer wedding cake was specially made for the evening.

Annie Evans and Cam McEnery had a quiet wartime wedding at the bride's home in Acton in 1917. In those days, they recall, the war effort was considered above everything else, and no one had

elaborate weddings or many new clothes. "It was even considered patriotic to be shabby," the McEnerys remember.

Rev. Large of the Methodist church conducted the ceremony, with family members present.

The couple lived in Acton at first and both of them worked in the glove factory. Later they moved to Ballinafad to the farm where they still live. Mr. McEnery is retired now, and their only son, Ernest, has taken over the work of the home farm.

With them live Ernest, his wife and their son and daughter Bill and Carolyn.

They are members of Ballinafad United Church, and Mrs. McEnery is a U.C.W. member.