

The Acton Free Press

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Acton driver suffers cuts

AFTER SWERVING to avoid children and then an oncoming car, this vehicle driven by Douglas Puddister, Nelson Court, wrapped itself around a hydro pole on Main St. S. Tuesday at noon hour. The car was considered a write-off with extensive damage. Mr. Puddister was taken to hospital with cuts.

(Staff Photo)

O.P.P. report

First accident-free week in three months

For the first time in over three months, Acton has experienced an accident free week. We of the Acton O.P.P. salute you, but implore you to continue your alert driving. It is gratifying to witness such statistics and think that perhaps we have in some small way contributed to it. However, neither we, nor you, should swell our chests too much. It might affect our driving.

Despite the absence of accidents, the members of the Acton Force were well occupied during the 240 hours worked and 748 miles patrolled. The remainder of the traffic figures compiled at the local office show eight persons were charged under the Highway Traffic Act, 33 others were cautioned about less serious offences and 15 vehicles were checked as to their roadworthiness.

General and criminal occurrences numbered 12 and resulted in two liquor and one criminal charge being laid. Other occurrences included reports of both lost and found property. Do we have something that might belong to you?

Sensible operation of a motor vehicle, coupled with a sound knowledge of the rules governing its operation and mechanical fitness are the main ingredients that constitute trouble and accident free driving.

The "Driver's Handbook", as produced by the Ontario Department of Transport, should be a must in the library of every driver. Whether you are young or old, a new or experienced driver, you never know enough about driving, nor can you study about driving too much. The Driver's Handbook contains a wealth of information useful to drivers at every level of experience. These booklets can be obtained, free of charge, at any Department of Transport office as well as at your local Police office. It will be to your benefit to take advantage of the offer.

The Honorable Irwin Haskett, Minister of Transport for Ontario, capably sums up his address in the booklet by saying "It cannot emphasize too strongly that, as a driver, you have a personal responsibility to know and to obey the traffic laws and rules of the road. By so doing you will protect yourself from many highway hazards and make driving safer and more pleasant for all highway users."

For the first time in its 115 year history, a husband and wife team heads Milton fair. George Headhead was elected president for 1968, and his wife Lillian has been secretary-treasurer for years.



OVER 80 WATCH Hamilton hairdresser Margaret Charters style a glossy black fall in various ways on pert model Mrs. Pat Kentner. Story and pictures on Second Front.

(Staff Photo)

Rev. Ritchie McMurray becomes first full-time chaplain at U. of Guelph

The Rev. Ritchie McMurray has been named permanent chaplain at the University of Guelph, and will be leaving St. Alban's, Acton. He does not know when his new position will begin, but expects to learn soon.

The cost of the new position at the university is to be divided between the Anglican and United churches.

Mr. McMurray has been acting as Anglican chaplain at the university part-time. Other changes at St. Alban's include the naming of Donald Lindsay as the new people's warden, and of Mrs. George Haggart as the church secretary-treasurer.

Mr. McMurray, as the only full-time chaplain, will have an office in the new academic building. He will also teach philosophy part-time at Wellington College.

"We regret very much leaving Acton," he said. Mr. and Mrs. McMurray and family came here May 1, 1965. He is very happy that the University of Guelph is openly encouraging denominational chaplains. There are several other part-time chaplains. For the Anglican and United churches, his new jointly-sponsored post is a pilot project in mission work. It's costly, since there is no income from the students or university. The cost sharing is also in

Car smashes into hydro pole

Douglas Puddister, Nelson Court suffered cuts, and his car was considered a total wreck after a noon-hour accident Tuesday at 12:43 p.m. Mr. Puddister was driving south on Main St. S. when he swerved to avoid school children and then swerved again to avoid an oncoming car. The car slid sideways, went off the road and smashed up against a hydro pole.

Dr. Buckner treated the driver at the scene for lacerations to the forehead and mouth, and he was taken by ambulance to hospital in Guelph.

The car's frame was bent with other damage to the right side, roof, side, and windows. Damage was estimated at \$600 and the car was considered a complete write-off.

The accident occurred at the pump house.

---Feeling hearty? It's Valentine's Day.

---Easter exams at the high school start early in March, and the final exams on June 4.

Council approves school addition grants tentative library approval

Acton public school board asked for and received approval for the \$356,325 addition to the M.Z. Bennett school at last night's (Tuesday) meeting of council. They'll apply to the Ontario Municipal Board for approval.

Tentative approval was also given for a proposed library on the Robert Little school at an estimated cost of \$50,000. This was a surprise presentation and left some councillors gasping until trustees, at the meeting in a body, explained the reason for the request.

School board chairman Cyril Bishop, acting as spokesman for the delegation, gave council an up-to-date picture of the proposed addition to the M.Z. Bennett school. The board went ahead with ground work pending a directive from the Department of Education. Then they applied for approval and received it for four classrooms, a gymnasium and library.

The board had the co-operation of architect, Donald Skinner, in drawing up working plans. Approval was requested without delay so the addition could be ready for September occupancy.

Additional pupil enrolment necessitating another kindergarten teacher at the Robert Little school has resulted in the displacement of the school library for the third time, Mr. Bishop told council. He said the school needed a permanent library and a request for approval was submitted to the Department.

He asked tentative approval from council so the building program could be completed at both schools simultaneously.

Estimated cost of the proposed extension for a library on the Robert Little school is \$50,000 with furnishings. Anticipated grants could be as high as 90% of the cost.

Questioned by Deputy-Reeve F. Oakes the board chairman said the library would be located on the east end of the school. "One thing I'd like to make clear," said Dr. Oakes, "is that debentures issued in 1968 will be paid for by the joint board of education in 1969 but we'll be taking on other people's debts."

Councillor Pat McKenzie said the need at the schools is urgent. "There is no place to go. If the delay continues we'll have to consider portables in September."

"If the addition is approved, to what extent will this relieve the congestion?" asked Councillor Bob Drinkwater.

Board vice-chairman Vic Bristow said even if children are moved from the Robert Little to the M.Z. Bennett school it won't necessarily mean moving kindergarten children. Reason is the M.Z. Bennett kindergarten is also crowded.

"Why bring in a library?" asked Reeve Hinton. "Why did we never know about this before?"

"It's happened since the last time we talked with council," answered Mr. Bristow. "There are three classes in the Robert Little kindergarten now. If the rest of the houses are built in Lakoview this spring we may need four kindergarten classes."

"I've no intention of blockading this submission but we must have a projection of your capital costs over the next five years before we can get approval from the Ontario Municipal Board," Dr. Oakes told the board.

After a long look at the school board's submission, the reeve said it sounded reasonable as long as the town was not over-building. He mentioned the possibility of a separate school in Acton and thought additions would possibly be suspending the idea, although declaring himself neither pro or con.

Council reviewed the history of the proposed addition at the school with frequent reference to the county board's ideas for schools in the future. Asked the size of the proposed library Mr. Bishop said it would occupy 1925 sq. ft.

"It costs \$85,000 for a library to serve our 4,500 people and \$50,000 for one to serve 500?" puzzled the clerk.

"The figures seem out of proportion," admitted vice-chairman Bristow, "but they are a different type of operation. The Department says every student should have 10 books in the school library."

Mr. Bishop broke down costs for the proposal as follows: construction, \$42,000; architect fees, \$2,520; furnishings and equipment, \$5,000; contingencies, \$2,100.

Councillor McKenzie in his dual role as councillor and Robert Little principal, explained the changing concept of a school library. The written word is no longer adequate. A library is also a repository for film strips, projectors, tapes and a workroom set apart for the books.

"A library for movies?" asked Councillor Tylor. Even TV shows are taped in the morning so they can be used later in the day, explained Mr. McKenzie.

Mr. Bishop explained the board wished tentative approval on the library but expected a sound approval for the M.Z. Bennett addition.

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Research and reading produced the subjects for the scene. Earliest in time is the wagon presumably bearing the Adams family - the first settlers. Pioneer scenes are spotted here and there.

The Stevenson Plough Company - once famous - is there, with an early locomotive, the once-impressive town hall, the old post office and the quaint aquatic club. The Dominion House was the original one - not the present hotel, and the Storey Glove Company plant is no longer here.

The first reeve, W.A. Storey, is here in portrait, as is Robert Little with the early school behind him. The authors of Acton's only history, Acton's Early Days, H. P. Moore and G. A. Dills, are included.

All the schools are shown and the churches can be located. Factories range from Beardmore and Company to H. K. Porter and Micro. The new music centre is shown - and even the centennial library.

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