



GUESTS FROM INDIA (far left), Malaysia and Algeria were impressed with the variety of products in Micro Plastics. Here they examine stacks of polyethylene. (Staff Photo)

## Foreign guests enjoy town life

Twenty-five foreign students from Malaysia, India, Pakistan, Algeria and Switzerland were week-end guests in Acton homes.

Two women clad in traditional Indian saris, accompanied their husbands. Some of the guests were undergraduates and others were graduates of their own national universities taking post-graduate courses.

They were invited here from the universities of McMaster, Guelph, and Toronto, by the United Church Women, under the auspices of the International Students Club and the Foreign Relations for Overseas Students.

Under the direction of UCW President Mrs. G. W. McKenzie, a committee composed of Mrs. A. Long, Mrs. T. Shields, Mrs.

H. Patterson and Mrs. C. L. Rognvaldson, arranged activities to give the students a taste of Canadian town life.

Saturday afternoon they observed local farm methods and enjoyed donuts and chocolate milk at the Rob-el Farm of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Donny. Tours were arranged through Micro Plastics and Boardmore and Company.

The evening was spent at the homes of the various hosts. On Sunday morning the visitors accompanied their hosts to the United Church service. For some, it was the first time inside a Christian church. A light lunch was served at the church before the guests were driven back to their schools. It was an education for both

## Band, Choralliers, accordionist present spirited spring concert

Acton Citizens' Band played the "best concert ever," listeners enthused after the concert Sunday night in the high school auditorium. About 150 enjoyed the fine program of music.

Bandmaster George Elliott presented the interesting program notes before each band selection. The long winter's practices showed in the technical ability and fine tone of the players, and there was plenty of enthusiastic applause.

There were two guest spots on the program.

First was for Joe Petric, the popular young accordionist, who played on the Trail and Gay Caballeros with precision and style.

The Acton Legion Choralliers took over the platform to sing four well-liked numbers, Meet Me tonight in Dreamland, Joshua, Balls of St. Marys and especially for Mother's Day, Bless this House.

Vic Patrick made the announcements for the chorus and Ted Hanson directed them.

Their original leader, George Mussello, was welcomed to the concert by bandsman Bill Buchanan.

A special performance was given by the junior band, young boys and girls who have been taking lessons. Dr. Elliott explained they played at the Christmas concert and "we hope they've improved." (Apparently they had done so well at rehearsal that afternoon, they were able to play even faster than he had expected them to.)

Reinforced by a couple of senior band members, they played Skip to My Lou Cha-Cha and the Mexican Clapping Song.

The cha-cha brought the premier performance of a new instrument which Dr. Elliott had Neil Anderson present for the audience to admire - a shiny cow bell.

During the program the Band Ladies' Auxiliary served coffee and cookies to the groups at

## Award contract for sidewalks

Rockwood - The board of trustees for the village of Rockwood awarded to Marshall Bros. of Guelph the contract for the construction of 486 running feet of concrete sidewalk on the south side of Mary St. Seven sets of figures ranged all the way from the accepted tender of \$1,360 to slightly more than double that amount.

New hydro rates will be in effect on all billing on and after July 1. Rate of increase is approximately 10 per cent. Increases in home cost will range between 80 cents and \$1 per month.

Township and village mill rates have been struck for 1968 and Rockwood residents will enjoy a reduction of 1.3 mills, due to the fact that recent town hall improvements have been paid for in full.

Next board of trustees meeting will be held on May 28 at 7:30 p.m.

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*Laura Secords*

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## Tough bananas

### Post Office misses hydro discount

It's tough bananas for the Post Office if they can't pay their hydro bill on time, says Acton's Hydro Commission following Thursday night's meeting.

The Post Office has missed its discount for the past two months because of failure to pay its bill within the 10 day period of grace. A letter to the Commission complained that because matters must go through various departments, 10 days is not enough time. They receive and send back their bill by mail.

"I can't be responsible for the mail service," says Audrey Urganhart.

Chairman Ted Tyler Sr. agreed. "We have no sympathy for them. We treat everybody the same. If they have a poor system, they'll just have to update it."

In answer to another complaint that the street lights on Elmore Drive come on 15 or 20 minutes after those in the rest of the town, Doug Mason commented, "I don't know who has been this, but whoever it is, he must be awfully blind."

Mr. Mason said he had timed the lights on two occasions and recorded a difference of from five to seven minutes. He explained this by the fact that Elmore Drive is on a different circuit than the rest of town.

The Commission passed a letter from the town requesting the installation of facilities in the new subdivision along Elmore Drive. The hydro is awaiting arms for the street lights which are expected to be completed soon after residents move in this week.

Orville Brown introduced the problem of burnt trees around street lights. According to Chairman Tyler the back of the trees are burned as well as the sections near the lights. He suggested the cause was poor soil conditions.

Caroline Nyway is to be contacted to see what can be done about it.

On the suggestion of Commissioner W.H. McEachern, it was agreed to rent out the newly acquired "ditch witch" with its operator, to private individuals. The "ditch witch" is a digger used in the installation of underground equipment. It will be rented out to those who wish to improve their underground or clean up their lot, provided it is pertaining to hydro work and does not interfere with regular activity.

The cost will be minimal. Chairman Tyler commented, "We don't want a figure too tough for the people to use it. We bought it to help get more underground and it should be available to the people."

The "ditch witch" has already been promised for use by town departments.

Special mention was made of the fine work Herb Ritchie has been doing on the hydro grounds. "He is a very conscientious man," said Chairman Tyler. "We didn't make a mistake there."

Mayor Doby was apparently out of town for the meeting.

## Mall on ...

(Continued from Page 1)

"We're only asking you to close off vehicle traffic in front of your store. I submit you made a poor choice of words."

Mr. Tyler told objectors to blocking No. 7 Highway that Kitchener tried the mall for three months closing off No. 8 Highway. "This year they're going for six months. Surely Kitchener wouldn't do it if it wasn't feasible."

The reeve then asked Tom Manes, a member of the delegation what he thought of the idea. Mr. Manes said he saw problems but thought it would be a good idea to try it.

Fred Gordon, another Mill St. businessman reminded the meeting there were many new people in town who were used to city shopping. "I know a lot of those people don't come downtown to shop. The mall would help get them downtown even if out of curiosity."

New residents were coming to his place, maintained the reeve and enjoying it. Mr. Gordon said "our business has increased too, but we'd like to see more downtown."

Further discussion around the concern of No. 2 committee about rerouting traffic and the possibility of No. 7 Highway being rerouted around Acton prompted Councillor Perry to ask:

"So what? They'll shut the highway off. I'm all mixed up."

"You are mixed up," the reeve said.

"Who gets business from through traffic?" asked Mr. Tyler.

"Closing streets will have an adverse effect on business," maintained the reeve. "I see no glimmer of hope for the experiment."

Councillor Perry's reply wasn't long in coming. "If somebody loses it, it will be the businessmen of Acton, not council. If they put the show on the road why don't we get behind them."

Although the reeve said only

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