

The Acton Free Press

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THOUSANDS OF SPECTATORS lined Acton streets Saturday for the largest Orange parade ever to take place here. There were nearly 1,400 marchers in the two-mile procession, bands galore, a profusion of banners and spectators from as far east as Belleville and west to Sarnia. Someone facetiously referred to



the crowded Mill St. section of town as the Orange crush, left, while the parade marshalling grounds in the park, right, was the hub for floats, flutes, drums, flags, marchers and curious sightseers. Weather was ideal.

(Staff Photos)

Record 1400 in two-mile Orange walk

1,385 strong, representatives of Orange Lodges from 13 counties joined in the annual Orange Walk Saturday afternoon in Acton. And this time, weather for the Glorious Twelfth was glorious. (Four years ago, district paraders here were drenched). There were 90 marching units for the nine judges to assess and 24 bands in the two-mile long parade, which took an hour and a half to pass a given spot. Many people saw the parade twice, as it looped through town, passing over the railroad tracks twice at the same location on

Mill. Organizers feared the last of the parade might still be formed up in the park ready to march off when the head of the parade - Acton Citizens' Band - arrived back at the park gates. But the route just about perfectly accommodated the nearly-1400 paraders. As the Acton Lodge - the parade rear-guard - stepped out of the park gates to head down Knox Ave., they saw the head of the parade round the Mill-Park corner at the R.R. Parker home - just one short block away! Where was the traditional King Billy, who heads an Orange Walk

on his horse? Halton county marshal Earl Brown, Burlington, explained the horse had balked . . . and so he walked. Guaranteed mild and friendly, the riding horse was brought from south of Hillsburg about 1:30 p.m., but "we 'ld" in the crowd. It was shipped back to pasture. There were 10 Halton lodges in the walk: No. 68 Stewarttown, 165 Hornby, 245 Georgetown, 257 Bronte, 358 Ancaster, 1184 Campbellville, 2385 Milton, 2429 Burlington, 3234 Oakville, along

with the host lodge 467 Acton. Acton lodges were included with Lavinia Lodge, Guelph, and the Acton I.O.L. also took part. Acton's marching beat came from the three-man drum corps of Danny Holmes, George Holmes and John Jordan. Other lodges: Haldimand: Caledonia, Eric, Dunnville, Inman Rd., Blinbrook, Lincoln: Merriton, Grantham, St. Catharines. Norfolk: Guysboro, Black Creek, Waterford, Simcoe, St. Williams, Langton. Peel: Brampton, Tullamore, Campbells Cross, Bolton, Port Credit, Sandhill, Huttonville, Enniskillen, Streetsville, Palgrave, Caledon East, Cooksville. Oxford: Woodstock, Tillsonburg, Ingersoll. Waterloo: Galt, Kitchener, Preston, Hespeler. Welland: Wainfleet, Fort Erie North, Niagara Falls, Clifton, Port Colborne. Wellington: Arthur, Metz, Guelph, Fergus, Elora.

Wentworth: six Hamilton lodges, one from Dundas. York East: Thornhill, Markham, Birchcliff, Moffats Corners, Highland Creek and three from East Toronto, and one from Toronto. Grey South: Conn. Perth South: Sebringville. The color theme of orange, blue and white, brought a pleasing consistency to the long parade and yet a wide variety in costume. Blue satin capes, white or orange umbrellas; orange sashes and tassels and the traditional regalia flashed in the sun as the units passed. With the big painted lodge banners were fluttering Union Jacks, provincial flags, and some Canadian flags. There were more pipe bands than any other including Fergus, Georgetown, Guelph, Sandhill, Woodbridge, Lorne Scots, Galt, St. Catharines. The biggest marching band was the Wellington flute band, 63 players from Toronto.

The smallest - even smaller than Acton's three sturdy drums - was with the Conn lodges - two flutes, played by an older man and a young boy. Their grandiose choice of selection several times was "A Thousand Pipers and All." There were several flute and drum bands and an accordion band. The Porter Memorial Band from Dunnville, headed by a matriarch, is comprised of members of the same family. Hamilton's long entry of lodges marched to the beat of the Dominion Steel Foundries band. The Sarnia-Lambton float, with a model of King Billy mounted on a platform atop a car, provided the nearest thing to King William all day. Another impressive float, all in tissue flowers, was from Sandhill. Chief William Douglas of the Six Nations reserve, who always participates in Orange parades, marched the entire route here on his 80th birthday. He wore an Indian feathered headdress. Various older lodge dignitaries rode in cars, including Acton's veteran Orangeman, C. K. Browne, 98. There were nine judges on a stand in front of the Y.M.C.A., and the local representatives

were George Lee, Orval Chapman, Mrs. W. Carnochan and Mrs. R. L. Davidson. The park was a perfect location for the program which followed. Several speakers mounted the flat bed of a truck by a ladder but a couple of others - the ladies - stoutly refused. But all voices were broadcast over a large area in the park as the microphone was passed up and down from the truck to the ground. Master of ceremonies Earl Brown announced contest winners and prizes were presented by Norm Fryer. Oldest Orangeman was John J. Young, 90 (Acton's C. K. Browne wasn't entered, belonging to the host lodge). Oldest Orangewoman was Lois Love, who was 93 that day. Best appearing lodge: L.O.L. 28, Woodbridge; best-appearing L.O.B.A., No. 555, Guelph; best-appearing Loyal True Blues, 393 Georgetown; best Juvenile Orange Lodge, Niagara Falls; best J.O.L. banner, Woodbridge; best lodge band, Sandhill; best other band, Wellington flute band; best float, Sarnia-Lambton. A look at what the Orange order stands for was taken by the guest speaker, Rt. Wor. Bro.

Gordon McCracken, Jr., D.G.M. of Ontario West. "We always stand for civil and religious liberties," he said. "We show our civil liberties by going to the polls, but more and more of our liberties are falling away with more restrictions and more taxation. We stand for religious freedom for all groups, he continued. Membership in the order is not restricted by race or nation but is open to any 'loyal Protestant.'" Maybe some changes are needed, but our principles are just as much needed today as ever. The Supreme Grand Deputy Mistress of the L.T.B.A., Sister D. G. Harris, and the Grand Junior Deacon of Ontario West, Rt. Wor. Sister Lena Warnock, brought greetings. Mrs. Harris mentioned the recent formation of a tri-county lodge for Halton, Brant and Wellington, and that Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Browne are members. Mrs. Warnock proudly recalled she was the organizer of Acton J.O.L. County Master Clifford also spoke. Reeve H. H. Hinton welcomed the crowd to Acton, and M.P.P. George Kerr congratulated the lodges for maintaining traditional loyalties while recognizing Canada is made up of many people from many lands. Most Wor. Bro. Rev. Milligan led in prayer. Some of the visitors had difficulty buying a meal, let alone a drink of beer. After inauguration of 1964 ruined booths' chances, few in town were anxious to try again, despite an appeal from the Acton Lodge. However, the Scout and Guide Mothers set up a booth in the middle of the park, and did a roaring business, specializing in home-made pies. The True Blues also manned a booth in the park. In town, Watson's restaurant closed up for well over an hour to completely restock. Hungry patrons were lined up waiting to get in. Due to the beer strike, the hotels had "sold out" signs in the beer parlor windows. Next year's district Orange Walk is in Guelph.

Three fire brigades fight savage barn fire on 24

Fire of unknown origin completely destroyed a large barn and nearby implement shed on the farm of L. G. Snyder, R.R. 1, Guelph, Monday night. Three fire brigades were called to the blaze which was discovered by Mr. Snyder shortly after midnight. The large barn stood on the farm about a mile east of Ospringe on Highway 24, atop the large hill. The intense flames acted like a beacon on the hill, drawing a large crowd of spectators who watched firefighters from Erin, Hillsburg and Acton battle the fire. They were successful in saving the brick farm house nearby but could do little to stem

the blaze in the barn which had a good head start on them. Mr. Snyder, consoled by the fact there was no livestock in the barn, could give no estimate of the loss. He had no idea of how the fire started. "It could have been a number of things," he told The Free Press. He ruled out spontaneous combustion as a cause because he had just finished putting hay in the barn that day and it could not have had time to fester. He awoke after midnight to see his barn in flames, called the Erin fire brigade, who in turn notified the Acton brigade when they saw how serious the fire was. Neighbors noticed the fire,

too, and they phoned the Hillsburg fire department. All three brigades arrived promptly but the fire, generating an intense heat, had consumed most of the barn. Flames spread by the wind caught on the house and firefighters soon had it out. Most of the damage to the house was caused by water. Spectators were given an added thrill when a large gasoline tank in the implement shed burst into flame. They hurriedly backed up from the intense heat. Flames lit the countryside up for a large area around the farm. Acton firefighters returned home around 3:30 a.m., the blaze contained.



FIRE OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN completely destroyed the barn and implement shed on the farm of L. G. Snyder, Highway 24, Monday night and started on the house. Firefighters from Erin, Hillsburg and Acton prevented serious damage to the attractive red brick farm house but the inferno levelled the barn and shed. There was no livestock in the barn. The farm is situated a mile east of Ospringe on Highway 24. (Staff Photo)

Trudy Morris, 100 in math wins \$4000 scholarship

A perfect mark in Mathematics A, helped Trudy Morris to graduate from Grade 13 with an overall average of 94 per cent. Trudy, who is Acton's first Ontario Scholar, is also the winner of a \$4,000 General Motors scholarship. Of her six subjects for nine credits, she scored 95 in chemistry, 94 in biology, 90

in English, 89 in French, 85 in physics and 100 in math. Trudy heads 23 graduates from the Acton District High School. Also on the honor list are Sandra Irwin, Connie Coles, Lyn Perry and Murray Jamieson. The top boy graduate, Lyn Perry averaged 77 per cent in six subjects. He scored 83 in physics, 80 in English, 78 in chemistry, 75 in Math A, and seconds in Math B and biology. Sandra Irwin earned firsts in geography 81, English 80, Math A 75 and French 75, plus a 72 in history for an average of 76.6 per cent.

Car, motorcycle in collision

A car and a motorcycle were involved in a collision at Queen and Meadvale July 6 at 9:15 a.m. Cecil Ross, Westcott Rd., was crossing No. 7 highway and the motorcycle, driven by John Lockrey, R.R.2, Acton was coming east. Damage to the car was estimated at \$150 and to the bike, \$100. Mr. Lockrey had an injured hand and bruised knee.

Free Press like letter from home

Harry C. Simons lives in Detroit, Michigan, now but he's still very interested in this area. Enclosing a cheque for a subscription to The Free Press Mr. Simons said he has been receiving clippings from the Rossall family of happenings in Everton, Rockwood, Eden Mills and some others. They brought back many memories of his early life as a resident of the rural area. He decided he might as well get a "letter from home" instead of the clippings so he sat down and wrote for a subscription to The Free Press. The Free Press welcomes anyone who doesn't receive their weekly "letter from home" to subscribe now and keep abreast of happenings in town and district.



MR. LEONARD, creator of the "Twiggy Look", was a guest at the Style Acres farm on the fourth line of Esquingus this week. He discusses fashion trends for the future and the new Twiggy look on page 3. (Staff Photo)

R.L. damage

At 4 a.m. Saturday morning O.P.P. Const. Peter Campbell discovered three windows had been broken in the Robert Little school. There was no attempted entry.

Car on fire

Acton firefighters were called out Highway No. 7 to the fourth line Sunday evening. A car driven by Roy Dawe had taken fire.