



The fence, ground, and themselves — whitewashed in playground Huckleberry Finn day

Bonus for readers this week's issue

Readers will receive a "bonus" with this week's issue of The Free Press.

In the shape of an extra section inside the regular edition there's 16 pages of pictures, stories, advertisements and comments called "INSIGHT ACTON" inserted at no extra charge.

Conceived as a way of telling the story of the people who man the industries and keep the wheels turning in Acton, it falls short of expectations but we hope it gives some inkling of what we were trying to accomplish.

Our staff went right into the local industries who co-operated, took pictures, talked with management and came away with impressions. These we put on paper in the form of photographs and words which we hope will give readers some "insight" into Acton.

We interviewed people and found there were many who liked living here and weren't hesitant about saying so. We avoided "knockers" because it was felt destructive rather than constructive criticism has never added much to the story of a community.

For the purpose of adding spice to the picture of the town and district, we even "took to the air" for some views with a difference. Staff artist Don Hayward designed the front page and it gave the staff a chance to experiment with color. We hope you like "Insight Acton". We realize we barely scratched the surface of the industrial stories, expansion, the human interest taking place in Acton daily but it was an attempt to chronicle it honestly.

Turn inside. You may appear on one of the pages.

The Acton Free Press

Ninety-Fourth Year.—No. 4.

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 1968

Twenty-Eight Pages.—Ten Cents.



PICKET LINES around Acton post office have been orderly with strikers taking turns marching up and down in front of the building. Employees here have been spelled off by pickets from Toronto, Hamilton and Guelph. (Staff Photo)

Contracts awarded Thursday M. Z. Bennett school addition, R. Little new resource centre

Final government approval for the M. Z. Bennett school and the Robert Little resource centre will have to be picked up in Toronto Thursday, since it can't come through the mail.

Public school board secretary Billy Middleton was assured in

Toronto Monday that the approval will be ready then.

Council approval comes next and then the shovels go into the ground.

The M. Z. Bennett school expects a complicated class schedule until about Christmas. All students slated for the new addition will start September at the M. Z. B. school in their classes which are to continue through till June, but there will be doubling up and new hours until January.

The Robert Little library is also expected to be ready about Christmas.

At a special public school board meeting last Thursday evening the board, architect and

principals opened tenders for the two projects.

In each case the lowest tender was accepted.

The M. Z. Bennett addition contract goes to McNally Construction, Georgetown. They quoted \$850 and \$2750 for sodding and paving with a total contract price of \$308,600. They estimated work will be finished in 20 weeks.

There were 12 tenders for the school addition with the last two figures for sodding and paving: P. and S. Construction, Scarborough: \$321,000; \$950; \$3,800; Paragon Construction, Weston: \$323,026; \$1,179; \$2,940.

A. J. McCarthy Construction, Milton: \$325,618; \$886,50; \$1,925. Gorsline Construction, Cooksville: \$326,470; \$1,216; \$2,140. Arch Construction, Toronto: \$328,800; \$2,230; \$910. D. R. Crawford Construction, Brampton: \$330,777; \$1,200; \$3,000.

Colt Construction, Scarborough: \$334,532; \$1,250; \$3,600. Field Construction, Toronto: \$339,694; \$500; \$2,850. R. B. Bayly, Weston: \$340,510; \$2,350; \$2,200. Conason Construction, Cooksville: \$347,833; \$650; \$2,700. Witmer and Sons Ltd., Kitchener: \$362,395; \$1,080; \$340.

Eight firms tendered for the R. Little resource centre (library) contract was awarded to Paragon Construction, Weston, at \$51,640, plus extra for sodding and paving. Estimated work time was 24 weeks.

Other basic tender prices on the resource centre: Paragon, \$51,137; D. R. Crawford, \$53,417; Arch \$54,900; Field Construction, \$56,194; Colt, \$55,875; R. B. Bayly, \$59,820; McNally, \$60,000; Conason, \$64,498.

The meeting was in the Robert Little staff room.

Architect Donald Skinner, who was present, had his office check out the bids technically and they were found acceptable.

Department of Education Officials said they felt the bid was very satisfactory.

Bus backs into car

A Gray Coach bus, stopped in front of the Royal Cafe to discharge passengers, backed into a car which had pulled in behind it on Sunday at 6:22 p.m.

A Volkswagen station wagon driven by Frank Marisak, Guelph, pulled in behind the bus to let out a passenger. Damage to the front of the car was reported by police at \$25.

The bus driven by Philip Greaves, Kitchener was not damaged.

that discussions are continuing . . . at least there is intelligent discussion taking place on both sides."

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau affirmed the strike was perfectly legal in an interview prior to leaving on a fishing trip, silencing some critics who wanted the House to reconvene and pass a back to work order.

The strike has been causing some inconvenience although some local industries here have managed to keep up communications with customers and suppliers by other methods, often ingenious. Customers in the U.S., for instance, are being kept informed by mailing from nearby border cities.

Neither Mr. Frank nor postmaster Gord McKeown, who along with Postal Officer Chris Britton are required to report for duty in the post office, can predict how long the strike will last. Both hope normal operations will resume soon.

Sources on both sides of the dispute - the Treasury Board and the Union - have said they do not expect any further developments until Wednesday but a report late Tuesday afternoon claimed the union was softening some of its demands for working conditions.

Much criticism has been made here and elsewhere over the slow tempo of negotiations but the chief negotiator warned Canadians not to expect miracles. Treasury board president C. M. Drury is reported to have said, "There is progress in the sense

Dr. R. D. Buckner honored tonight at music centre

Many patients of Dr. R. D. Buckner and friends of the family, will be gathering tonight (Wednesday) at the Music Centre to honor him and bid them farewell. Dr. and Mrs. Buckner are leaving Acton, after 13 years here, for a trip to Great Britain. From there they plan to go (by banana boat) to Kingston, Jamaica, where they'll retire in the sun.

Dr. Buckner expects to do psychiatric work part-time there.

After a social hour, dinner will be served. A plaque will be presented to Dr. Buckner and the evening will end the way they enjoy - with Scottish dancing.

Over 100 are expected for the evening.

Child drinks varsol treated at hospital

People are being asked to keep barbecue lighter fluids and other chemicals out of the reach of children following an incident in Glenlea subdivision this week.

A two and a half year old drank some varsol from an unmarked bottle lying in a nearby yard. She was taken to the Acton Medical Centre where doctors, unsure about what she had drunk, could not specify treatment.

Fortunately contents of the bottle were identified and the child was treated at a Guelph hospital. She is being kept in

hospital for observation but barring complications should be released soon.

Weekend accidents Mill-Main corner

Saturday at 6:45 p.m. two cars were in collision at the Mill-Main corner, when one was making a left turn. The car driven by Adolph Kraus, Poplar Ave., received \$150 damage and the car driven by Anthony Berberich, Main St., Rockwood, received \$100 damage, the police estimated.

The next day a motorcycle and a car were in an accident at the same corner at 5:50 p.m. The Honda driven by Thomas Perkins Jr., 134 Longfield Rd. received an estimated \$100 damage to the front end and motor. The Pontiac driven by Mike Nazarewicz, Martin St., Toronto, received about \$10 damage to the front bumper and fender.

Rural delivery

Rural subscribers to The Acton Free Press will receive their copies of this week's issue in the mail box, thanks to an arrangement made with carriers.

Other subscribers may pick up the paper at Dills Stationery on Mill St.

Strike paralyzes Acton post office

One postal employee who has reported for work since the country-wide postal strike started last Thursday has kept Acton post office partly open but mail service here has been effectively cut off.

Pickets from the local chapter of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers have been augmented with strikers from Toronto, Hamilton and Guelph. Patrolling in front of the strikebound federal building here, they carry large placards announcing they are out on strike.

Five of the local staff started picketing Thursday morning at 6 a.m., the first postal strike ever to hit the Acton office. One member of the local union was sick the first day of the strike but has since joined the picket line.

The one postal clerk who never applied for union membership

has crossed the picket lines without interference since the strike began. He has been supplied with police protection.

Police here said, however, the strike has been exemplary in every way. The strikers have been supplied with a list of do's and don'ts and are sticking to them, causing no trouble.

Strikers have been furnished with a headquarters in a garage at the rear of Mrs. R. Algie's residence, adjacent to the post office. Well wishers have furnished them with everything from cigarettes, soft drinks and ice cream to white away the picketing duties.

"The public is nearly 100 per cent behind us," claimed local union chairman Alec Frank. There have been some rude remarks passed, he said, but the majority of the people passing have encouraging words and many

have gifts.

Neither Mr. Frank nor postmaster Gord McKeown, who along with Postal Officer Chris Britton are required to report for duty in the post office, can predict how long the strike will last. Both hope normal operations will resume soon.

Sources on both sides of the dispute - the Treasury Board and the Union - have said they do not expect any further developments until Wednesday but a report late Tuesday afternoon claimed the union was softening some of its demands for working conditions.

Much criticism has been made here and elsewhere over the slow tempo of negotiations but the chief negotiator warned Canadians not to expect miracles. Treasury board president C. M. Drury is reported to have said, "There is progress in the sense

Propose 85-acre Milton site for regional jail

An 85-acre Milton site is being proposed for the new regional Maplehurst correctional institution that will include a detention centre, training centre and reformatory for an eventual 460 inmates.

The self-contained site is bounded by Highway 401, Highway 25 and the C.N.R. by-pass. It includes 85 acres presently owned by the Department of Highways and 30 acres under option from Edwin Harrop.

In a hastily arranged meeting of Milton Council Monday, M.P.P. Jim Snow explained to councillors the provincial plan for the site,

noting its development was very high on the priority list of the Department of Correctional Services.

Mr. Snow, reviewing earlier proposals for sites on the Ninth Line and at Hornby, stressed the need for dependable municipal services. He noted the land was part of that to be annexed to Milton from Esqueping and was adjacent to municipal water.

The Department would be prepared to negotiate with the town for services, including participation in the proposed trunk sewer line which will be needed to serve the area.

The desirability of the site was reviewed by Mr. Snow who noted it had natural boundaries with the highways and railway.

Douglas Penfold, executive director of the Department of Correctional Services, pointed out the average length of stay of an inmate would be nine months. "We're not intending to put dangerous people here," he assured members.

He noted the training centre envisioned would accommodate about 200, the reformatory 200 and the maximum security building about 60. The areas would be separated on the grounds.

The reformatory would be in an industrial setting that would produce goods for the government as others already do, Mr. Penfold explained. No farming operation is planned for the area but some market gardening may be done.

First priority in the three phase development program would be the reformatory, council was told, because it is a key to other institutional changes in the province.

Mr. Penfold explained construction of the reformatory section would permit transfer of inmates from the Mimico industrial

farm where the land is being sold and plans call for that area to be turned into a clinic.

Treatment at Mimico would be for alcoholics, certain classes of sex deviates, drug offenders and would offer psychiatric care. These are presently at Millbrook near Peterborough. Space vacated there will be used as a regional detention centre for that area.

The training centre, one of the phases proposed for the Milton location, will be for young men who can benefit from trades training.

"We don't intend to house in-

mates regarded as dangerous here. If they do escape they will want to get away from the area," he reassured council.

The proposed site is still subject to soil testing and other preliminary investigations on suitability, M.P.P. Jim Snow told Milton Council.

No predictions were forthcoming from Mr. Snow or Mr. Penfold on when the present Halton County Jail would be closed.

It was noted certain changes were being made in the County Jail to improve it since the Province took over responsibility for justice, but it would eventu-

ally be closed and prisoners would be accommodated in the new centre.

Mr. Snow revealed that the counties of Peel and Halton had signed an agreement to build a regional detention centre but the assumption by the province of the total cost of justice, including jails, terminated the agreement. The province plans to build about 15 institutions of the type proposed for the Milton site within the next 15 years. One is under construction at Napanee.

No plans have been developed for the Milton institution.

briefs

--Acton library is closed for two weeks while the staff has its vacation.

--The new carriage house at Halton County museum is open to the public now. It was the county's centennial project.

--It's the time for visitors and trips! Let the Free Press know of these social items for the "Personals" column. Of course, there's no charge.