

Full three-day program for 55th Acton fall fair

Farm community and townspeople will find entertainment, interesting displays, competitions, music and plenty of fun at the 55th annual fall fair of Acton Agricultural Society this weekend. For the second year, the fair's events are extended to include an interdenominational church service in the community centre Sunday afternoon.

The Friday night performance starts the jam-packed program, and its highlight is the surprise naming of Miss Acton Fair.

Saturday a gala parade with three bands will draw the crowds to the park for the full afternoon's program, and there's a dance in the evening.

Wilmer Fryer is president of the fair this year, with Mrs. Ruth Linham heading the lady directors.

Again, the hard-working secretary-treasurer, who has all the answers at her fingertips, is Mrs. C. W. Swackhamer.

Many of those attending the fair will be winners; there are classes for everyone, ranging from pigs to plums and petunias; from cows to coverlets and cakes.

The usual lists of prize winners will be filling columns after column in the Free Press.

Miss Acton Fair entries close today!

The judges for the competition at the Friday night performance are two broadcasters from the Guelph radio station, and Henry Stanley, the agricultural representative.

Official opening of the fair takes place Friday night, with M.P.P. John Root, Wellington county, doing the honors.

Local talent combines with a flock of professionals to provide the program. Joyce Carpenter will have her charming young dancers on stage; the Legion Chorale will sing.

Featured during Vince Mountford's "variety all-stars" show is Billy Meek, the comedian from the popular Pig and Whistle TV

show. Others on the bill are international baton champion Elaine Hardman; baritone Nick Genovese; a trained dog circus act and Jimmy's Music Makers band.

And Vince Mountford? He's already well-known here and inimitable.

The big parade is scheduled to leave the station at 12 noon on Saturday.

Secretary Mrs. Swackhamer said Tuesday there were already 17 floats entered, as well as convertibles carrying life members, representatives of neighboring townships, Acton's mayor and fair officials.

The floats will be judged as they go down the streets, Miss Acton Fair and all the contestants in the competition will also be in the parade.

There are three bands slated to serenade the hundreds who'll line the streets. Acton Citizens' Band will be joined by the Milton Girls' Pipe Band and the Ukrainian Youth Association brass band.

The Ukrainian band will also play a program in the park during the afternoon.

Decorated bikes, trikes and doll buggies will be judged at Knox church, so the littlest paraders won't have so far to go.

While the livestock judging and horse shows are going on in the park during the afternoon, there'll be activity in every corner of the grounds.

The popular baby show takes place in the community centre at 2:30, with judges Mrs. Warnock, Georgetown, and Mrs. Gosling, Hamilton.

Right after, on the platform, there'll be the comical cracker eating contest, freckle face contest and the balloon blowing contest for children 12 and under.

Entries in all classes are coming in well, says Mrs. Swackhamer. (Continued on Page 3)



PLAYING HOOKY with feet in the air? Ricky Fair opening on Friday. (Actually Ricky is on the shift system at school and has his afternoons legitimately free.) (Staff Photo)

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Jail break

Police nab three fourth still free

A province-wide manhunt continues today for a young Hamilton man who escaped from Halton's century-old jail in Milton Sunday night. But three companions who escaped with him by beating up two guards and stealing a guard's car are safely back in their cells in Milton.

Freedom was short-lived for the trio, who escaped about 7:50 p.m. Sunday by scaling a rear wall at the Brown St. jail property. By 9 p.m. two had been apprehended and returned to jail, and the third was arrested at gunpoint a mile north of Milton just after 2 a.m. Monday.

Police across Ontario are on the lookout for Robert James McCabe, 24, of 20 Gordon St. in Hamilton, who is still on the

loose. McCabe is described as five feet six inches tall, weight 122 pounds, with light brown hair, hazel eyes and ruddy complexion. He was in jail awaiting trial on burglary and theft charges pressed by Burlington Police in June. When arrested he was on parole from Kingston Penitentiary where he had served a sentence for his part in a manslaughter case in Hamilton in 1964.

Acton O.P.P. detachment was asked to be on the alert, and at one point watched in case a specific car passed through town. However, no one was spotted here.

McCabe is described by police as "dangerous" but Milton Police Chief Ray Andress was

confident the man would be returned to custody soon.

Recaptured were Barry McKenzie, 24, of Hamilton; Edward James Woods, 21, of no fixed address; and Charles Lebar, 42, of Georgetown and Hamilton.

McKenzie had already been sentenced to four years in jail last May for robbing a Hamilton motel, and had three months added to his sentence for his part in a cellblock beating of a prisoner at Halton Jail in July. He was held in jail awaiting trial on a gas station robbery in Burlington. Further charges of robbery and possession of an offensive weapon await him in London.

Woods was convicted last (Continued on Page 3)

Y's Men to canvass for arthritis

Acton Y's Men will be canvassing door-to-door for the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society, September 24 and 25. Industries and business will be canvassed during the week of Sept. 16.

Campaign chairman Jim Lindsay said the Y's Men are also planning a float on the subject of arthritis for the Fall Fair parade. There will also be a booth in the community centre.

Physiotherapist Eve Malone will be on hand at the booth to answer questions on the disease and show slides.



SIDEWALK DAYS

Deemed highly successful the end of last week, Sidewalk Sales are continuing all this week along the main business section. Again the participating

merchants are advertising some of their best "specials" in the Free Press. Check the ads before you stroll past the outdoor tables and racks!

Merchants and shoppers, too, were delighted with last week's business, and the weather was perfect.

Conversational French in public schools Mme. Reynolds thrilled with ses élèves

A book est un livre, a desk est un pupitre, and a pen est une plume at least for one period a day since the introduction of conversational French in Acton public schools.

Mrs. Hélène Reynolds is in charge of French instruction for pupils in grades six, seven and eight in both Robert Little and M. Z. Bennett schools for the coming year. Each class gets one 20-minute period of French each day.

Mrs. Reynolds says she is amazed at the enthusiasm of the children. "They seem to have learned an awful lot in the first

two weeks, and there are many students who catch on quickly," she beams.

Since this is the first year for French at the elementary level, the program is still indefinite. The children are being taught basic sentence structure, classroom vocabulary and simple greetings. This week they began numbers and the correct way to say the date. The advanced students may begin writing as well.

The entire period is in French. "I never speak English unless it is to explain the rules of a game," claims Mrs. Reynolds. "I

may use English if I feel the students are hanging in mid air over instructions."

Mrs. Reynolds conducts her classes in a lively dynamic style that makes the language exciting. She demonstrates with objects in the classroom, often draws cartoons on the blackboard and encourages students to express themselves freely.

"I try to teach in an active way so that the children will keep their enthusiasm. I can't get over the response—it's wonderful."

Mrs. Reynolds is a native of Montebello, Quebec, and taught high school for the past five years in Lachute, Quebec. She is currently studying Italian at the University of Guelph two evenings a week and hopes to take her degree in languages.

Turn down assessment commissioner system

Halton County firmly rejected a proposal to introduce the county assessment commissioner system, in a recorded vote of 20 to 12, during their monthly meeting Tuesday.

Oakville, Burlington and Esqueping township rejected the plan that would have placed all assessments in the county under a single assessment commissioner.

Reeve A. Day of Oakville foresaw no advantages to introducing the system now and integrating the present municipal assessment departments at the county level until some clarity developed in the regional government proposals.

Protesting that waiting for things to happen rarely accomplishes anything, Reeve H. Hinton, Acton suggested the integration of assessment would pave the way for regional government. He noted Peel County was already operating

the system. He maintained the county could not assess equally for the County Board of Education if it didn't adopt the county assessment commissioner system.

Reeve W. Couiter, Nassagaweya, acknowledged there was a great deal of concern among farmers in the county over assessment. He suggested there were bound to be inequalities while farm assessing was carried out from seven different offices, rather than centralized. He concluded the assessment commissioner system would create no hardships.

Reeve G. Gallagher, Burlington told council he had been authorized by the Board of Halton Federation of Agriculture to say they would prefer the county decision be delayed until further information was available to them.

Deputy Reeve E. Burke, Burlington, noted only five of Ontario's 37 counties had not adopted the assessing system but there were 16 major cities that had not accepted it or were not considering it.

Adoption of the county system of assessment would cost Burlington \$110,000 while city status would cost the town \$180,000.

The recorded vote on the resolution, sponsored by Acton Deputy Reeve F. G. Oakes and Milton Reeve A. Ledwith, was supported by all but Esqueping, Oakville and Burlington.



LEARNING FRENCH is a lively, exciting period for Acton public school children under the direction of Mrs. Hélène Reynolds. The entire lesson is conducted in French and Mrs. Reynolds is thrilled with how quickly many of the children have adapted to the second language. She teaches pupils in both Robert Little and M. Z. Bennett schools. (Staff Photo)

Five days before break

Jury urges speed in building jail

A Grand Jury report making recommendations to cure the shortcomings of Halton County Jail in Milton was submitted to the Hon. Justice Parker on September 10, just five days before four prisoners broke out Sunday evening.

The report said, "We unanimously recommend that the Province proceed

immediately to acquire land for a new County Jail and proceed with its construction with all convenient speed."

The report included recommendations encouraging larger facilities for the governor and staff in the existing premises and a private office for the governor.

The report continued, "We recommend the establishment of an admitting room and detention cell for the purpose of holding incoming prisoners until they can be medically examined and treated if necessary by a qualified physician before exposure to other prisoners."

"We were impressed with the care and maintenance of the building and with the generally cheerful attitude of the prisoners. They were courteous to the Grand Jury and respectful to those in charge," the report read.

The proposed changes to the jail will not affect plans to erect a new detention centre for Halton and Peel.

The new jail will be situated at the corner of Highways 25 and 401. Construction costs of the new institute are expected to run about \$2,000,000.

Accident blamed on thick fog

Just before 9 o'clock Monday morning, in extremely foggy weather, a car and truck were in collision at the corner of Churchill Road and Queen St. E.

The car driven by Mrs. Judith Hallman, R. R. 4, was coming north on Churchill Rd., and received an estimated \$300 damage.

The milk truck was driven by George Comptois, Guelph, and damage to the steps and hand rail amounted to about \$20.

Police blamed the thick fog for the accident.

Range stolen from house

A Kelvinator range was stolen from an unoccupied Rubin Corporation home at 87 Elmore Dr. late Saturday night. The theft was reported to police Sunday morning by real estate salesman Stu Robinson.

Apparently a cellar window was insecure, and the stove in its crate was taken out a door and loaded into a car.