

# Observe continuous progress in action Acton-Milton-Nassagaweya convention

The teachers and principals of the Township of Acton, Milton and the Township of Nassagaweya were guests of the Toronto Board of Education on Friday, Sept. 27, on the occasion of their annual Teachers' Convention.

During the morning teachers were given the opportunity of visiting junior schools in Forest Hill, where this has been operating for 10 years and open classrooms, senior and junior schools in the city of Toronto where advancement toward the continuous progress plan is at various stages of development.

The following slate of officers as presented by K. Trowbridge, was elected for the remainder of the year 1968:

J. Zehr, B. A. of Brookville, President; D. Copeland, B. A., of Acton, vice-president; Mrs. C. Stewart of Milton, secretary; Mrs. K. Alger, of Acton, treasurer.

In a few brief remarks Area Superintendent W. J. McNeil explained that though this was the last convention of Halton No. 4 larger municipal systems do set aside at least one day so that teachers may make a study of the innovations in their profession, and assured those present that such gatherings would undoubtedly continue in the future under the Halton County Board of Education.

## The train didn't stop here Is Beardmore tannery still in business? 80-year-old man last saw Acton in 1895

An 80-year-old Michigan man, who lived in Acton for three years as a lad, recently wrote to Beardmore Tannery to seek more information about the town. He didn't know to whom to write and recalled the name of the tannery—hoping they were still in business!

Norman Braida wrote a lengthy and informative letter of reply to J. M. Purvis, 1401 Eisey Road, Rte. 2, Beaverton, Michigan, assuring him the tannery indeed still was in business. "It is very interesting you still remember the Beardmore Tannery from the time you were in Acton in 1895," Mr. Braida said.

Mr. Purvis had also particularly enquired about the Storey Glove Factory and the Arnold Glove Factory, which Mr. Braida explained are now out of business.

Mr. Purvis asked about some farmers named Mann who had a relative who was a partner in a railway company, then building railways all across Canada.

Beardmore's president replied he was undoubtedly referring to Sir Donald Mann, who built the first trans-Canada railway. He and his parents lived on a farm at Acton and he had a railway siding built alongside his father's farm so he could come to visit him.

Interesting enough, it's the farm where Mr. Braida's parents live now, and it has been completely subdivided for Glenlea subdivision.

parliament in Ottawa. A puzzler was his question about Guernsey's department store. Mr. Purvis says he was born in November 1887, in Quebec, but came to Acton at the age of seven to live with his grandmother. He has never been back to Acton since he was nine years old!

But he tried to come back once this past summer. And he told a story that might well be repeated at next week's hearing on the closing of the railroad station here.

"I bought a train ticket on August 12, 1968, to ride from Flint, Michigan, on the Canadian National train to Toronto, with the idea that I could stop in Acton for a visit to renew old memories. But the conductor told me they did not stop in Acton on that trip. So I will try to get another railway train to stop at Acton for me some time in the near future!"

His grandmother's home was a block away from the Grand Trunk station on Mill St. and he used to enjoy seeing the trains stop every day.

The schoolmaster who taught him was Mr. Moore, who lived just a block west of his grandmother's on the same side of the street. "He had a son who enlisted in the Canadian Contingent of Soldiers who went to South Africa to fight in the British Army that beat the Boer Army in many battles," Mr. Moore's son died of enteric fever there. Another Acton man who volunteered came back and married a widow who owned a hotel here, he recalled. The villagers presented the veteran with "a purse of gold."

He said he remembers Sir Donald Mann's father an elder in the Presbyterian church. Another son, Archie, used to sing in the choir. He met the Mann family going to church meetings with his grandmother. The McDonald family lived nearby and son Archie was a friend of his. His brothers played on the village baseball team. The Ryders lived nearby, too. The Denny's, who were also neighbors, ran a grocery store.

Remarkable as his memory is, Mr. Purvis admits he has forgotten the names of many other people.

His grandmother was a sister of the Stuart family who owned a lumber yard in Guelph, and her husband's family, the Laidlaw's, also had a lumber yard, in Toronto.

When his mother died in Edmonton, she was buried in the Laidlaw plot in Milton, Ontario. After the first World War he bought a house and store in Toronto at Davenport Road and Uxbridge Ave. He also sold realty tickets to many Poles and Ukrainians returning home to Europe for visits, and he encountered several who said they had worked at Beardmore's.

He regrets moving to Detroit in 1925 and thinks he should have stayed in Canada. "I like Canadian people regardless of where they were born," he claims. More information about Acton will be sent to the American with the excellent memory by Acton's mayor, Les Duby, who is also the personnel manager of the plant that turned out to be still in business.

World Alliance president speaker

The president of the Baptist World Alliance and a world traveller, Dr. Marion Bates will be the guest speaker at Acton Baptist church anniversary services this Sunday morning and evening. It's the 126th anniversary of the congregation.

Dr. Bates, former dean of women at McMaster University, has just returned from a trip to Columbia, Peru and Cuba, and before that was in Africa.

She was born in India to missionary parents. Her grandfather pioneered Canadian Baptist Mission work in India. Her father and mother were missionaries. Her mother died in India as a young woman; her father later became the Canadian General Secretary for Foreign Missions.

She received her Honours B.A. from McMaster, then trained as a nurse. Her husband, Dr. Edgar Bates, son of a Baptist minister, predeceased her. She has two daughters. Dr. Bates has been president of her local Mission Circle; of the Association of the Women's



SCHOOL CARETAKER Rudolph Spielvogel shows where safe-crackers tried to bust into the high school safe Sunday night. The job was only partly done but left the school offices covered with dust and debris. (Staff Photo)



SCHOOL CARETAKER Rudolph Spielvogel shows where safe-crackers tried to bust into the high school safe Sunday night. The job was only partly done but left the school offices covered with dust and debris. (Staff Photo)

### Brick chips fly as thief tries to crack safe at h.s.

An ineffective attempt to break into the high school vault was made Sunday night. A hollow was forced out of a brick wall, apparently by laborious effort with a hammer and chisel.

After hacking at a foot-square area in the wall the would-be thieves were still well away from the over \$100 in the school safe. However, the persistent hammering filled the main office

with red brick chips and dust. Caretaker Rudolph Spielvogel informed the Acton police at 8:30 a.m. Monday morning. Two Burlington officers from the Identification Bureau were called to take fingerprints.

There are apparently two rows of bricks between the plaster and the safe. The thieves reached only part way through the first brick layer.

Entry to the school had apparently been gained through a window at the back of the school. Nothing was discovered missing. The tools used were not left at the scene. Investigation continues.

### \*SUNDAY NIGHT DUSK-TO-DAWN ALL COLOR SHOW!

5 DYNAMIC ACTION HITS

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Plus  
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(and a few other lovely chicks)  
in  
"A FINE MADNESS"  
ADULT ENTERTAINMENT  
PLEASE NOTE SHOW STARTS AT 7.45 P.M.

Sunday Night Oct. 13 Only  
GIANT DUSK TILL DAWN SHOW  
5 DYNAMIC ACTION HITS  
1-"PHYSICO PATH"  
2-"BUSY BODY"  
3-"RACING FEVER" - Adult  
4-"Who's Been Sleeping in My Bed" - Adult  
5-"CURSE OF THE VOODOO" - Adult  
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## Sparkling water, bright trees delight Golden Age Club

The Golden Age Club went on a long bus trip on Tuesday, October 1 instead of holding their regular afternoon meeting. Thirty-nine members and friends boarded the bus at 10 a.m. and headed for the north hoping to see the trees in all the beauty of their autumn colors.

before the bus left there to come down through Caledon, Erin and Ballinafad back to Acton. As there has been little, if any, frost so far this fall, the leaves were not yet in full general color over the hills but there were many beautiful spots all along the route and often single trees stood out in sharp contrast to their green background. The waters of the lovely lakes and rivers shone and sparkled in the bright warm sunshine under the clear sky, and the weather could not have been finer.

In all, it was a most enjoyable trip with beauty to enjoy everywhere in true Canadian variety.

### Fire Prevention Week

About 75 firefighters from the Halton brigades will attend a Sunday morning church parade in Acton Oct. 20, marching from the CNR station to Knox Presbyterian Church under the Fire Prevention Bureau banner. Acton Fire Chief M. Holmes and the Acton Firefighters will host this year's parade. Open houses at the fire halls, school fire drills, distribution of special literature and commercial and industrial building inspections are on the program too.

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JULIE ANDREWS  
"SISSY SHERRIP" - Cartoon

SUN.-MON.-TUES.-WED. OCTOBER 13-14-15-16  
"ANZIO" - Color  
ROBERT MITCHUM - ROBERT RYAN  
"POLAR PLAYMATES" - Cartoon

THURS.-FRI.-SAT. OCTOBER 17-18-19  
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