

Ottawa adventure in citizenship



ACTON'S CHERYL LEE enjoyed lunch in Sir Vincent Massey Park as part of her four-day Adventure in Citizenship at Ottawa, sponsored by the Rotary Club. (Staff Photo)

By Cheryl Lee

When I was told that I was to represent the Rotary Club of Acton in Ottawa, I was very proud to accept this invitation as a student of Acton District High School and as a Canadian. As the hour neared to board the train for Ottawa, I looked for other students travelling to Ottawa, but finding none I feared that I had been forgotten. My fears were without ground for when I arrived in Ottawa I was met promptly by my host who told me that there had been 40 adventurers on the train.

I awoke promptly Monday morning little realizing that by Thursday I would dread the thought of getting up. My host dropped my room mate and myself at the Chateau Laurier where all the Adventurers were to assemble in the banquet room to be welcomed by R. A. Field, president of the Ottawa Rotary Club and Don B. Reid, Mayor of Ottawa. Mr. Field told us that we would all be dead beat by Thursday but none of us believed him (now we know better than to doubt him).

From here we went to the Senate where we were received by Senate Connelly who told us about the workings of the Senate in the Parliamentary system. I was especially honoured to be asked to sit in the Speaker's chair by the Senator. In the House of Commons, we had the honor of having the Right Honourable Pierre Elliot Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, talk to us for about 20 minutes. In his talk he expressed that youth is essential for development in the future.

After a wonderful luncheon at the Chateau, Mr. Jamieson, Minister of Transport gave the address in place of Mr. Trudeau who was unfortunately occupied with the bill to be given third reading in the House. That afternoon we toured the Parliament buildings and visited

the Commons in session. I was really disappointed because no one was listening to what the person was saying. Even Mr. Trudeau wasn't listening, he was talking to John Turner. There were very few government members there attending the session and Mr. Stanfield, leader of the opposition wasn't present either.

Dinner was at the Sir John A. Macdonald High School and later we enjoyed a band concert by the school band and a dance with music supplied by the "Brass Circus."

Tuesday morning after six hours sleep, we met at Carleton University where we were welcomed by Professor Vallee. He spoke of the nation's vertical mosaic and the different ethnic groups in Canada. Then we broke up into our different discussion groups.

The luncheon address was presented by the Honorable Robert Stanfield who spoke on the three problems facing youth today: a) need for summer employment b) need for higher education and c) the infiltration of Canadian universities by American professors.

The afternoon was spent at Rideau Hall and the R.C.M.P. Training Division at Rockcliffe. Rideau Hall on Sussex Drive opposite the Prime Minister's Home is the residence of the Governor General. We met the Governor General and his wife in the reception room. Leaving Rideau Hall we went to the Aeronautics Museum before visiting the R.C.M.P. Here are the famous planes of history; the Silver Dart, the Red Baron, the Spitfire and many others.

On arriving at the R.C.M.P. Training Division we were given a concert by the R.C.M.P. Band. The music was very good. We watched an assault course which showed the co-ordination of the rider and his horse in order to overcome the various obstacles.

The address at dinner was given by Inspector Felton who stressed the need for co-operation between the society and the police to control crime.

Returning to Ottawa, we toured the new National Arts Centre which has not yet been opened. The official opening is May 31. The theatre itself is in the shape of a hexagon and throughout the building the design is repeated. There are three parts to the theatre itself, the opera, the theatre and experimental studio. The art work is all commissioned, many of the artists are French



By Terry Curtis

Elections

Thursday of last week Acton's student body elected their governing council.

Speeches by the candidates were presented Thursday and on Friday during specific times. 66.8 per cent of the students participated in voting. Those who were elected to positions were Mark Hunt president (re-elected), Dianne Fisher vice-president, Marie Timbers secretary, and Bob Smith treasurer.

These are the student council representatives of 69-70 for Acton High.

Off to Stratford

Friday students are travelling to Stratford to be enlightened the Shakespearean way. Hamlet is the play. This is usually an annual event.

Slaven in Ontario finals

Jim Slaven our long distance runner competes in the Ontario Finals at the Toronto Exhibition Grounds this Saturday. Best of Luck Jim, burn up that CNE track!

Exams start on doomed day

Would you believe that our first exam is Friday the thirteenth? Oh yes, I have been asked to announce an emergency meeting of the Black Cat, and Ladder Society to petition for a later date.

Martindale trips

It doesn't take marijuana for a successful trip, just ask Mr. Martindale our rambling geography teacher.

Previously our leader was host for a trip to Schneiders Meat Factory in Kitchener and the Kitchener Planning Department. He even likes his students so well, that he insisted after we were all loaded and packed away on the bus, that he take our picture in front of pretty tulips. Last weekend, he and Mrs. Martindale hosted a fabulous weekend in New York City. Further report to come.

Formal report

Saturday, the Band Hall was the location for the Spring Formal affair this year. The Jackson Lane Society provided R and B, for long-gowned gals and their escorts. The musical food were great but there weren't enough there to take full advantage of it. You really missed out, if you didn't go!

During the evening Lynda Damm was crowned Queen by mayor Les Duby. Runners-up were Julie Smith and Marie Holmes.

Teachers win

Tuesday the pedagogues versed the students in a game of softball. The score posted was 17-6 for our learned elders. With their superior knowledge of the scientific aspects of the game they worked together like a well precisioned machine. The computer-like squad will again be programmed for a return match this Tuesday.

Rationalization

The thirteen's this year have been really taking advantage of the weekends. They rationalize that if they cut loose on weekends-weekdays they will be studious and attentive.

Canadian. The featured personalities are all Canadians of National Ballet Company of Canada, Gordon Lightfoot, Stratford Theatre Company and many others.

Wednesday morning, we met again at Carleton University in our discussion groups. The professor that headed our group gave us a tour of the university via the underground tunnel.

Later we were picked up by the National Capital Commission (N.C.C.) and taken to lunch at Vincent Massey Park. In the afternoon we were given a bus tour of Ottawa and Hull. We also visited the Museum of Science and Technology. This was very interesting because all the exhibits had all sorts of buttons to push to show different reactions. Also here were many locomotives ranging from the very old to the modern.

As guests of the NCC at the Chateau we had a magnificent meal with flaming baked Alaska for desert. Mr. Cote, the Minister of Revenue, making his first public appearance, spoke on the diverse ethnic groups in Canada. He also commented on the job that the National Capital Commission has done making Ottawa reflect the Canadian way of life. The evening was completed by a dance at Sir John A. Macdonald High School.

Thursday was the one day I didn't want to get up. However I made it to the lobby of the Supreme Court of Canada Building where we were met by K. J. Matheson, Registrar of the Supreme Court. We later assembled in the Confederation Room of the Parliament Buildings to be presented our

Citizenship Certificates by the assistant Under Secretary of State.

The farewell luncheon was held at the Chateau with the address presented by one Adventurer from each province and territory. The addresses were on one event that we had experienced during the four day

stay. Then it was all over. Goodbyes were said and addresses quickly exchanged and hurried promises to write soon.

As I said goodbye to my host and hostess, I realized how much I had become a part of their family. When I boarded the train for Toronto I could think of nothing but sleep but when I

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arrived in Toronto I realized that all I had now were memories. In conclusion, I would like to thank the Rotary Club of Acton for sending me to Ottawa for the four most fabulous days in my life with many lasting memories for the future.

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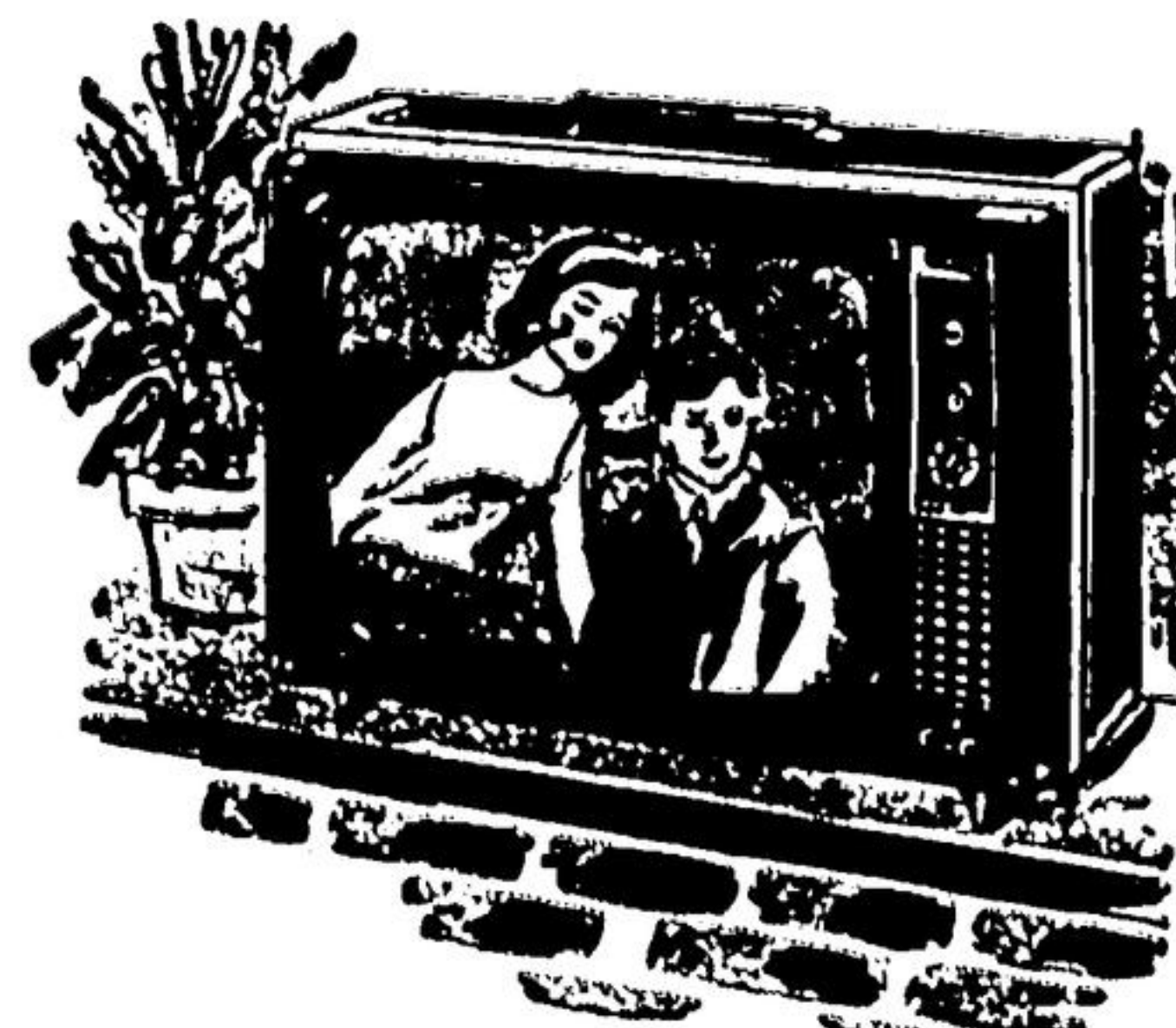
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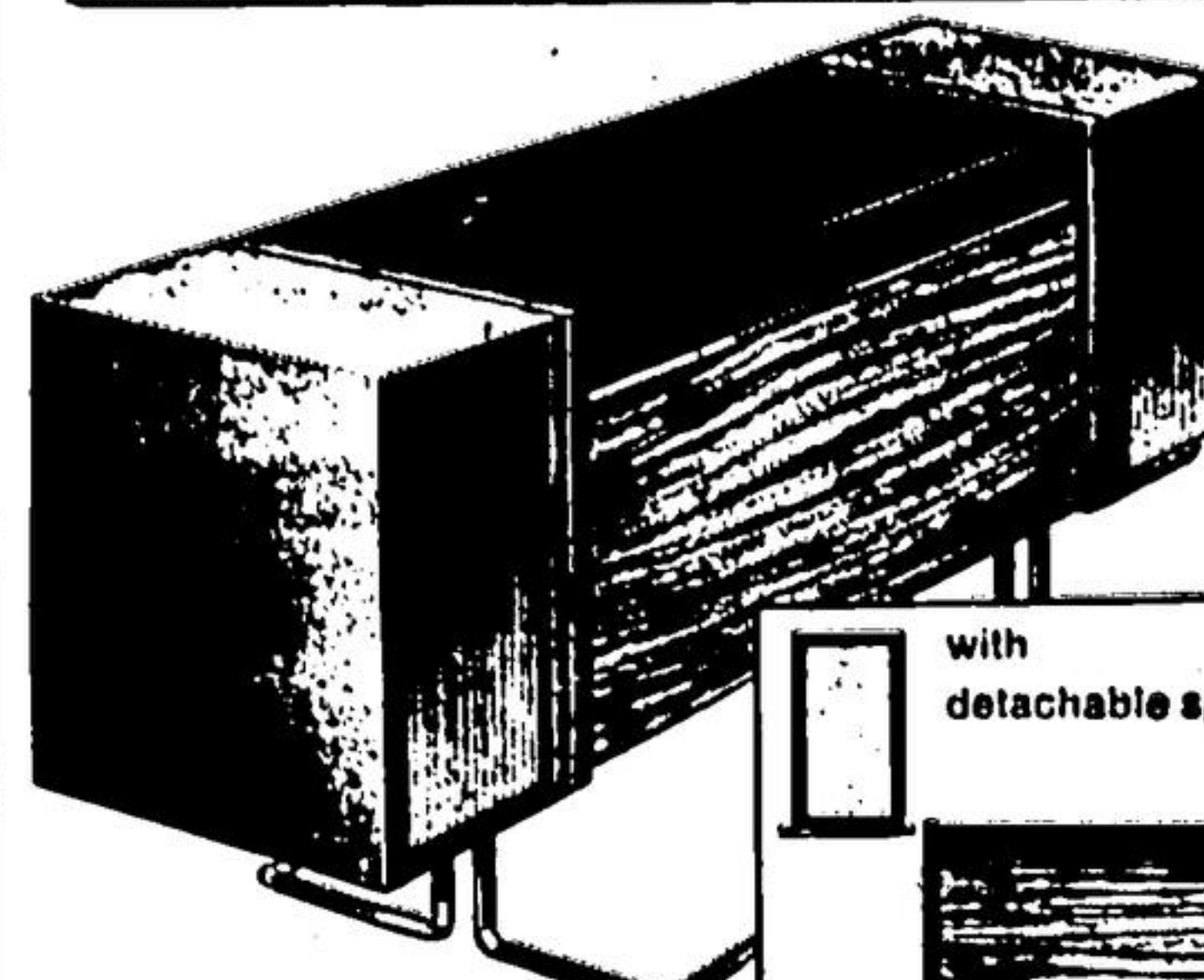
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"A TIME TO REMEMBER" at the high school sponsored by the Girls' Athletic Society as the last Saturday night, was just that for Lynda Damm, crowned formal queen by Mayor Les Duby. Runners-up in the contest were Julie Smith and Lynda's escort was John Carpenter. The dance was Marie Holmes. (Photo by Esther Taylor)