

"Grand old man" feted on 100th birthday

"Hard work, good livin' and lots of cigars".

That's the formula for longevity Charles Kelly Browne, Acton's grand old man, passed on to friends who came to congratulate him, as he celebrated his 100th birthday last Thursday.

Feeling as spry as he did 50 years ago, C. K. was feted by members of Acton Orange Lodge No. 467 at a huge birthday party in St. Alban's parish hall, Thursday night.

In addition to the 168 guests who offered their personal best wishes, congratulatory letters came from Queen Elizabeth, Prime Minister Trudeau and Halton M.P. Rud Whiting.

Executive assistant Gord Hampson represented Minister of Energy and Resources Management George Kerr, unable to attend because of business in the legislature.

Mr. Hampson also brought a plaque from the province and personal letters from opposition leader John Diefenbaker and Mr. Kerr.

Acton reeve Dr. Frank Oakes, representing town council headed the

line-up of birthday speakers, that also included Mrs. Daisy Harris, Grand Mistress Loyal True Blue Lodge 544, Rockwood, Rt. Worshipful Brother David Warden, Grand Master Ontario West, Most Worshipful Brother Gordon Keys, Past Grand Master British North America and Worshipful Brother Alf Winter, Fergus lodge No. 4121.

Also involved in the birthday celebration were the Halton County, Rockwood and Guelph lodges.

Former Actonite Norman Fryer, now of Guelph, Wellington-Waterloo county master, acted as master of ceremonies for the event.

One of C. K.'s closest friends Father V. J. Morgan, pastor of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church also came to offer his congratulations.

St. Alban's rector Rev. Harry Dawson, Golden Age Club president Mrs. George Fryer and long time Sarnia friend John Morrison added greetings.

Friends and neighbors sent a card accompanied by 100 birthday roses. Flowers also came from the Past Master of Orillia Lodge, Mayor and Mrs. Les Duby, and Acton council.

Among personal gifts he received were a set of engraved cuff links and tie clip from his grandchildren.

Highlight of the evening for C. K. was the presentation of his long service jewel from Fergus Past Master Alf Winter.

The announcement of the arrival of a new great grandson Robert Charles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Skilling also added to the festivity of the occasion.

Born in Michigan June 4, 1870, C. K. moved to Midland as a child and got his first job with Playfair and Preston General Store, when he reached working age.

After working on lake boats for six years, he moved to Toronto where he ran a shoe store, then joined Western Canada Flour Mills as assistant advertising manager.

Mr. Browne came to Acton 50 years ago to run the Beardmore co-operative general store. The store was located in the building that now houses Gordon's Hardware at the corner of Mill and Willow Streets.

He started his present business where the IGA store is now located, in 1928 and moved to the building on Main Street North in 1940. He still greets customers over the counter of the store with the same enthusiasm that has kept him young for a

century.

C. K. has been married three times and has a daughter Grace, 12 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. He married his present wife Doris, who keeps their confectionery business running, in 1957.

A member of the Loyal Orange Lodge ever since he was 20 years old, C. K. claims a list of titles as long as the proverbial arm. He is also Past Noble Grand of the Oddfellows and a clerk of the Woodmen of the World.

A stiff Conservative since he was 19, C. K. has attended several political conventions over the years.

C. K. still eats a breakfast that includes toast, a poached egg and porridge, porridge that he makes himself every morning, but admits he has cut his cigar quota from 50 a week to three or four a day.

He hasn't missed a July 12 parade since he was six years old and is looking forward to riding in this year's in Woodbridge. He got in some practice last Sunday by participating in the Decoration Day parade.

The Free Press joins with his many other admirers in wishing C. K. many more happy birthdays.



C. K. BROWNE cuts his 100th birthday cake. — (Jim Jennings Photo)



Ninety-Fifth Year. — No. 50

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 1970

Twenty Pages — Fifteen Cents

Drowning aftermath

Residents raise funds to minimize danger of lake

Residents' brief seeks support from council

The dangerous north shore of Fairy Lake brought a concerned delegation of Lakeview residents to council Tuesday evening to report a canvass for funds and to ask council to grant additional money to parks board for immediate improvements.

Hank Ruppert and Don Lindsay spoke for the newly-formed Acton Parks Development Association while Iain Williams pointed out not all those present were with that delegation.

A prepared brief was distributed and read by Mr. Ruppert while the 16 citizens, reporters and council listened. It read:

"Whereas the Acton Parks Development Association consisting of many concerned residents of the Town of Acton

desire to repair the shore of Fairy Lake to a condition that the danger ever present to the younger citizens of this community is minimized, it has therefore been resolved by the association to canvass the people for funds to complete the aims and objectives of this association.

"It is also desired that the council of the Town of Acton be made aware that this organization deems it necessary that all know of the dangerous state of the north shore of Fairy Lake after the dredging which occurred last year and that urgent action is most certainly required to set the property in a state that the hazard is minimized.

"Accordingly, this association has canvassed many residents of this town to raise the necessary monies for this project. Although the people have been very generous in giving of their time and money for this necessary campaign it is petitioned that this council order funds be made available to the parks board of this town in order that hasty completion of these repairs may be done.

"It is hoped that this most beautiful recreation area may be made safe for all citizens by the earnest co-operation of all groups and bodies.

Acton Parks Development Association,
H. E. Ruppert
President

About \$1,100 has been banked already, Mr. Lindsay said, and there are 40 or 50 homes in Lakeview still to be contacted. "I personally believe this is an indication people in Lakeview are very seriously concerned."

He expected the hoped-for sloping effect for 50 feet would give children between 20 and 30 feet of gradual slope before the sharp drop. Estimated cost from Mansell Nells was about \$4,000. Asked by councillor Greer if the proposals agreed with parks board's plans Mr. Ruppert and councillor Marks explained parks board members had been asked, and agreed completely.

Beardmore and Co. representatives had also gone to the site and approved the change to the shoreline. They would lower the lake level if necessary to complete the work.

Mr. Lindsay says the residents concerned hoped to raise about \$2,000 altogether and they would like council to consider picking up the balance.

Mr. Ruppert said the rest of the town might be canvassed as well as industry. Residents hope to see a start before the holidays.

The problem is all around the

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Residents raise funds to minimize danger of lake

Quarry drowning Tuesday claims life Bramalea man

A drowning at Waterfalls Playground quarry yesterday afternoon about 5.30 claimed the life of Donald Murray Budge, 33, of 21 Ascot Street, Bramalea.

Mr. Budge was scuba diving, when a friend Robert McLean on shore noticed air bubbles coming to the surface of the water.

Together with other swimmers Mr. McLean swam out and was able to bring Mr. Budge back to shore.

When mouth to mouth resuscitation failed, Mr. Budge was taken by ambulance to Georgetown District Hospital. He was pronounced dead on arrival.

Mr. Budge's wife and two children were also at the quarry at the time.

Constable Pearson of the North Halton detachment O.P.P. investigated.

Reach settlement public school staff

Settlement was reached Monday night between the negotiating committees of the public school teachers and the Halton county board of education. The agreement will be ratified this Thursday evening at the regular meeting of the board.

A press conference will likely be held Friday morning to announce the final agreement, Acton-Nassagaweya board member Tom Watson told the Free Press.

There has not been a further meeting between the high school teachers' committee and the board, following the teachers' representatives walking out of last week's discussions on working conditions and salary.

Tires stolen

The theft of two tires at Thompson Motors was reported to police last Friday, Con. MacArthur is investigating.

More shade

About 70 trees were ordered and planted by private individuals during the town's cost-sharing offer.



Inside—students clean up

EVERYTHING but the kitchen sink was hauled from the creek and north arm of Fairy Lake including old fenders, tires, toys, cans and even the odd fish caught in a contraption. — (Staff Photo)

Strike at post office on Friday

The 24-hour rotating strikes called by the Canadian Union of Postal Workers struck Acton last Friday when postal workers here didn't report to work. They were back on the job Saturday, however, and mails here flowed through normally this week.

Only Postmaster Gordon McKeown and Postal Officer Chris Britton were left in the Acton office Friday to deal with phone calls which Mrs. Britton said varied from people asking for information about the strike to indignant callers who offered abuse. Ton of the majority of calls was friendly.

Signs were hung on post office doors stating the wickets were closed because of the strike. The postmaster and his assistant are forbidden to provide service while there is a strike.

Truck drivers refuse to cross picket lines at other area post offices where pickets are stationed. Consequently strikes at the major post offices like Toronto affects mail coming and going from the Acton office.

Postal workers here don't know if they will be called on to strike again. Instructions come from union headquarters in Ottawa.

The lobby of the Acton office remains open during a walkout so box holders can pick up mail.

The Council of Postal Unions is asking for 60 cents an hour over two years. The government has offered a 41 cent-an-hour increase over a 30 month contract. Pay rates now range from \$2.57 to \$3.23 an hour.

Defer motion on grading shore of lake

Acton council referred a motion, asking that Parks Board be allowed to exceed its budget by a maximum of \$2,000 to grade the north shore of Fairy Lake, to further study by the two committees. They expect to have an answer next Tuesday.

Councillor Marks, chairman of Parks Board, and Councillor Coats both opposed the verbal motion to defer action, claiming there was sufficient information on hand to make a decision immediately.

Councillor Marks cited the "overwhelming" support shown by Lakeview residents who donated 30 to 40 per cent of money needed. He felt work should be done as soon as possible to minimize danger at that point.

"Why do you feel the need is imperative at this time?" asked the reeve.

"The area has given us an example of how hazardous it is," declared Mr. Marks referring to the recent drowning. "If there was a similar tragedy at an intersection the Public Works committee would see if the street needed a stop sign or cross walks as soon as possible."

Councillor Masales also maintained it was also imperative something be done to control dust in the area.

"The thing that concerns me," said Councillor Chapman, "is that four and five year-old children are still playing there unsupervised in spite of the drownings." Mr. Chapman pointed out later they were not all children from Lakeview subdivision.

Councillor Marks told council Parks Board would not spend a dime of the \$2,000 asked for overbudget until all other avenues were explored. "We will still have a hazard no matter what we do," admitted Councillor Masales, but felt other solutions should be investigated.

The deputy-reeve said he thought it was unfortunate people in Lakeview have to put money out to solve the problem. "Their pocketbooks are tied to their hearts," he said, still feeling the matter should be referred to committees. He also felt the shore was a community problem, not one for Lakeview residents only.

Discussion on whether a transfer of funds from recreation to parks was possible was ruled out by the clerk.

Reeve Oakes suggested Parks Board could use the same method of financing the project as they did when emergencies occurred at the arena. "I'd like to see complete finalization of figures before we make a decision," he declared asking for the deferment.

Councillor Greer said he would like to see the entire area

Weather outlook

WARM

Weather outlook for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, as supplied by the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food office in Milton:

"Warm with a chance of thunder showers. Sunny and a little cooler on Thursday. Lows from mid-50's to lower 60's, highs in the mid-70's to lower 80's."

Town houses, semi detached homes, stores included in Seynuck farm plan

Draft plans for 106 new homes plus town houses for the Seynuck farm were shown to planning board at their last meeting Thursday. The planning consultant will be asked to attend the next meeting to give his recommendations.

Attending the meeting were Tony Morano of Monex Construction and his manager, Mr. Agar, who lives now on Churchill Rd. N.

The area in question runs from Wallace St. over to Churchill Rd. along the south and east

Sell three parcels in industrial park

I wish the people who were here at the last meeting complaining about council not doing its job could be here tonight to eat "crow", said Deputy-reeve Ted Tyler after council passed three by-laws authorizing the mayor and clerk to sign offers of purchase for three parcels of land in the industrial park.

Council authorized the conveyance of:

(1) Two acres of land to James Gibson.

(2) One and a half acres of land to William Acri next to the Gibson property.

(3) Two acres of land to Frank Heller and Co. across the road from the other two.

Mayor Les Duby said he preferred to look at events in the

industrial park as the normal progress of negotiations leading up to the final sale of land.

Councillor Peter Marks suggested, however, that the land sold was to people waiting on the doorstep for some time and that council would have its work cut out for them from now on. He also suggested a strong selling program to speed sales.

The mayor replied that council had done everything in its power to sell the property for many years and there were few sales pitches that hadn't been used already.

The three sales of lots in the industrial park were all submitted and prepared under the direction of the chairman of the development commission.

Twp. sympathetic

Lots of dust, no permits Merv Barber's complaints

As far as Merv Barber of R.R. 1, Acton is concerned, Esquusing council might as well have his farm on 25 Sideroad since they collect taxes and then won't let him do anything with his property.

"I can't sell a lot and I can't give my kids a lot. What the H—good is it?" he asked council Monday night.

He told them he had \$3,000 tied up in a trailer park, with all Health Unit approvals needed, and still couldn't get a permit to allow trailers to park.

Mr. Barber also complained bitterly about the dust problem on 25 Sideroad, comparing conditions on that road to well-oiled township roads near Georgetown.

"I could have brought 25 people here to complain about this if I had wanted," he told council. He said his wife had to dry clothes in a dryer because dust was so thick outside.

Council sympathized with Mr. Barber's complaints and after some discussion agreed he could let trailers of construction workers who are working on Highway 7 locate in his park provided they left when the job was done.

The dust problem on 25 Sideroad?

Change by-law

Esquusing council rescinded a previous by-law which charged township residents for using the Esquusing dump in favor of one charging only those who collect garbage as a business, and use the dump.

Several residents had objected to the charge for those with pick-up trucks, station wagons and trucks which worked on a sliding scale and at the last meeting council indicated they would change the by-law.

It was decided the only charges levied would be to Thomas Haines \$200, Albert Leflerink \$120, and Don McIntyre \$80. Contractors hauling for Apple Products Ltd. and Albert Farrier are to be charged 50c a load. Council also left room in the by-law to add to the list, if necessary.

Seynuck farm. Building this type of development would necessitate a change in zoning from R1 to R2 and R3 and commercial, and the town has no zoning to cover town houses.

The five per cent parkland would be around the creek at the north-west corner of the property.

The plan was discussed at length.

Chairman Sid Saitz welcomed the new member of the board, Frank Simioni.