



ACTON'S CITIZEN of the Year for 1971, E. G. "Ted" Tyler Sr. was honored Saturday night at the Acton Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner in the Acton Music Centre.

Following reading of a citation by Mayor Les Duby, Ted received a beautiful plaque and wife Gwen was presented with a bouquet of roses. —(Staff Photo)



THE VOICE OF ACTON, Ron McKnight received a special award for his outstanding contribution to sports in Acton from the local Chamber of Commerce at Saturday night's annual Citizen of the Year Dinner. Admiring

the attractive plaque with Ron are l. to r. his mother Joan, Chamber president Roy Goodwin and Ron's father Jim. —(Staff Photo)

1971 Citizen of Year citation

Mayor Les Duby read the following citation Saturday for Citizen of the Year Ted Tyler Sr.

It is an honor for me to deliver a citation for the 1971 Citizen of the Year not only because of my association with him in municipal politics over the years but also to share in the recognition to an outstanding citizen who has contributed a great deal towards making Acton a pleasant and progressive place to live.

It has been my experience that Ted Tyler has always called a spade a spade. He never pulled punches when he felt the welfare of Acton was at stake. He has always taken a strong stand on issues when he felt he was right and this certainly has gained him respect and admiration over a lengthy period of public-spirited service.

When Acton's 1971 Citizen of the Year speaks on any issue he has the ear of the public and his associates. He has never minced words, espousing forthright opinions delivered in a fashion that shows he has done much study and homework on issues before deciding where he stood.

Looking back over the years it is not surprising that many of the things he stood for are now taken for granted in the community.

Ted Tyler was the second mayor of Acton, succeeding Amos Mason who had the honor of being mayor the first year Acton was elevated from village to town status. That was in 1950—a year of great change for the village turned town when the foundations were laid for much of the progress that was to follow. Acton had a population of just over 2,000.

During the years Ted was on council the town took some big steps forward. It was during his time of office, (he started out as deputy-reeve in 1948), that Acton people agitated for and built sewers and a sewage plant. It was also during those years that water was extended to people in town who never had enjoyed an amenity we can't imagine doing without today.

Ted Tyler remembers well the installation of sewers and the condition of the roads after the job was done. "There wasn't a minute of the day someone wasn't phoning about roads," he observes with a smile. Then council decided to pave the roads and with typical dispatch, with Tyler at the head, they went ahead and did it. The only roads paved in Acton prior to then were Highway 7 and part of Highway 25.

Because there was a crying need for housing in Acton of that day—worse even than today's conditions—council spear-headed a drive to get housing and it was during Ted's time on council that the Glenlea and Lakeview subdivisions were brought in and built.

There were also three or four annexations during the same period and anyone acquainted with municipal work knows the vast amount of time and effort councils of the day spent finalizing plans for all these town improvements—without pay.

"We had meetings almost every night of the week, often to two or three o'clock in the morning," Ted remembers but, "we were really interested in what we were doing. If we hadn't, a lot would never have got done."

It was during these years that exploration for new water sources was made, drilling wells, and making provision for the water reservoir on Churchill Road.

On his last term of council he was instrumental, with two others, in helping form the Chamber of Commerce industrial committee and also had an industrial committee working on council. They were successful in enticing several industries to Acton, the largest being H. K. Porter Co.

While reeve of Acton, Ted attended meetings of the public utilities commission and it started an association with Hydro that has lasted till the present time. He acted for the mayor on the P.U.C. in 1950 and was on the body when it was changed to a Hydro Commission, and control of water reverted to council.

Big problem for the hydro commission during those years was finding the money and the means to build a new hydro building. It is a reality now, but there was a tremendous amount of groundwork and search in those years with Ted naturally as Commission chairman looking after details as if the building was his very own. His reputation for seeing a job is done right has stayed with him ever since.

Today the smart, modern hydro building will look after the needs of the town until it reaches a population of 8,000 to 10,000, and is a model for other communities to covet.

Few people are aware that during the hunt for industry Ted used his own money to travel to Montreal and other places to entice industry to Acton. No one knows but Ted how much time and materials he donated towards other civic projects such as the scout hall and the music centre, along with other past Citizens of the Year.

Of course, being avid curlers, both Ted and his wife were more than interested in the building of the new Acton Curling Club. Ted pitched right in with all his resources to ensure an up-to-date curling arena with attendant room for social activities. He served on both the building committee and the board of directors.

This is typical of Ted Tyler and the interest he takes in anything that will benefit the town.

As you can see there is a tremendous amount of energy in this man, harnessed to help make Acton a worthwhile place to live.

Acton has always provided me with a good living, he says. His personal philosophy concludes that a person in business should try to contribute something if they have the time to be of service.

Ted has come a long way both figuratively and literally since he came to this country from England in 1910 with his parents. Born in 1907 in London, he came to Acton and this is where he has been ever since.

He attended school here, starting in a schoolhouse, now torn down, which was situated behind the Holland Shop on Mill St. His first job—working for John R. Kennedy's general store, where Ernie Marks is located. Then he worked at Beardmore and Co. for several years before deciding to step out on his own with a trucking business in 1929.

He started with one truck and a phone in his own home. Today, in association with his wife Gwen and son Ted Jr., Tyler Transport has a home on 7 Highway on Acton's outskirts and there is a fleet of trucks and buses which number over 50 pieces of equipment.

Ted's first employee—Lorne "Minute" Walters—is also still with the company, starting first in the fall of 1929.

The business has nearly outgrown its present quarters and plans are being made for expansion. Trucks with the Tyler name on them travel to 17 States and as far east as Montreal.

He credits much of the success of the business to "darn hard work" and the assistance of his wife, who puts in as many hours at the office as he does. We are often the last to leave at night, he confesses.

Ted married the former Gwen Homewood in 1930. She's a Milton girl and it is perhaps fitting that the company also does much business in Gwen's home town. The Tylers live on Mowbray Place in Glenlea subdivision, again appropriate since Ted had much to do with establishing the subdivision in Acton.

At the other end of town, in recognition of his services, one of the lakeview subdivision streets is called Tyler Ave.

Son Ted who is married with two daughters is following in his father's footsteps, both in the business and in municipal politics, serving as councillor and deputy-reeve of the town.

And Ted Sr. is not thinking of retiring either. "I am not through yet," he declares with a smile. As he sees it, no one can stop Acton from growing and that's alright with him. The town has to grow in order to compete with its neighbors, he says candidly, and as far as he is concerned it is a mighty fine place to live.

And judging by the people here tonight this town has a warm place in its heart for a man who gave so unstintingly of time and talents for the good of the community.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is my privilege at this time to present Ted Tyler, the man we honor tonight.

The Acton Free Press

Ninety-Sixth Year. -- No. 44

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 1971

Second Section

Surprise garden

Newcomers to this part of the country, the Bartholomew family were delighted this spring to discover an astonishingly early garden around their new home. Mrs. Frank Bartholomew, R.R. 5, Georgetown, is spending her first spring in her new home. Her daffodils were in bud March 15 and were in bloom a month ago. Her tulips and hyacinths are out now and she already has pansies. There are hundreds of tulips. Her surprise garden is located on the sunny side of the house, near Glen Williams.

Citizen of Year

Ted Tyler Sr., Ron McKnight receive plaques, ovations

Ted Tyler Sr. was officially proclaimed Acton's Citizen of the Year and Ron McKnight received a special citation Saturday, to standing ovations.

The two men, in different generations, were chosen to be

honored at the Chamber of Commerce annual dinner and dance in the music centre, and a sold-out crowd filled the hall with enthusiastic applause twice as the recipients of the engraved plaques were proclaimed.

The program after the buffet supper was chaired by Chamber president Roy Goodwin. Dancing to The Shaynes followed.

Mayor Les Duby read the citation to his long-time associate, now Citizen of the Year, and Mrs. Roy Goodwin presented red roses to Mrs. Tyler. A standing ovation greeted Mr. Tyler as he rose to reply.

Very proud "It's a very proud moment for me," Mr. Tyler said quietly. "It's not very often you get bouquets in civic life. Usually the phone calls are for some other reason!"

What he has accomplished has not been done alone, he said. There were always eight others on council and a good clerk. "We had our differences, but when everything was all ironed out everybody went right to work."

Follows others He paid special tribute to his wife, a "big help" in his business and municipal work.

After urging more liaison between the town and the Chamber of Commerce, he concluded "It is an honor to be able to follow the others who have done such good work for this town."

Asset to community Chamber president Roy Goodwin presented a plaque to Ron McKnight while Mrs. Paul Nielsen presented flowers to his mother, Mrs. Jim McKnight.

"Ron has overcome a great handicap and become an asset to the community," Mr. Goodwin pointed out. He had a difficult childhood but kept up his interests and contributed in a way that made him an example in sports in which he can never hope to participate.

Voice of Acton Mr. Goodwin pointed out that Ron, who works in the town office, is self-supporting, which is an accomplishment in itself. After mentioning his involvement

in minor sports, Mr. Goodwin introduced Ron as the "voice of Acton... Ironsides."

A standing ovation followed.

Telegrams read

Mr. Goodwin read telegrams of congratulation to Mr. Tyler from M. P. Rud Whiting and a business associate Lou Enchin of Toronto and to Mr. McKnight from Mr. Whiting, Acton Minor Baseball Association, Acton Legion Minor Sports, the executive of Acton Figure Skating club and Acton Tanners hockey club.

Introduced to the crowd were head table guests Mr. and Mrs. Roy Goodwin, mayor and Mrs. Les Duby, first vice-president Paul Nielsen and Mrs. Nielsen, Mr. and Mrs. Tyler, Mr. McKnight and his parents.

Minister of Energy and Resources Management George Kerr and Mrs. Kerr were acknowledged, as well as former

clerk-administrator Jack McGeachie and Mrs. McGeachie; civic committee chairman John Rol and committee members Mr. and Mrs. Alan Eastwood and Kevin Conroy. Only former Citizen of the Year present was Fred Wright.

Past president honored

The past-president's plaque was presented to John Shadbolt as Mr. Goodwin pointed out "a lot of his projects turned out right." Mr. Shadbolt has been active in the Chamber six years.

Don Lindsay said Grace.

"The situation is good," Chamber president Goodwin reported to his audience; a committee of the Chamber of Commerce met recently with council and hydro. He mentioned the Christmas lighting and urged co-operation to help provide funds for some of the many things the Chamber would like to do.

Junior Tylers caught in middle

Ted Tyler Junior and his wife Dolores had a hard choice Saturday night. While Ted Tyler Sr. was being honored at the music centre, their daughter Tracy was on stage at the Robert Little school in the dance recital!

They solved the problem by attending dress rehearsal, and Tracy came over to the music centre after the recital to join her parents and grandparents.

Mrs. Tyler Sr.'s beautiful orchid corsage was the gift of her family.

Other relatives of the Tylers present were Mr. and Mrs. Irl Stapleton, Acton, his sister; Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Tyler, R.R. Georgetown, his brother. Just before the dinner, they received a telegram from brother Matt

Tyler and his wife Edna in Phoenix, Arizona.

As well as his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim McKnight, Ron McKnight was joined at his table by uncles and aunts Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Aitken and Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Robertson, Guelph; his sister Bev. and her fiancé Archie Baddeley of Brampton.

Chairman Roy Goodwin also introduced guests from a distance, Mr. and Mrs. George Chapman of Wyndham North, Norfolk, England who are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Murdo McCutcheon.

Milton's clerk Jack McGeachie and Mrs. McGeachie also returned to join in honoring Mr. Tyler. Mr. McGeachie was clerk here when Mr. Tyler was mayor.

GIFTS FOR MOM

SUNDAY MAY 9th is Mother's Day

GIVE HER

A GIFT FROM HINTON'S

CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS:

- TOILET SETS • BOXED STATIONERY
- BONE CHINA CUPS & SAUCERS • SEWING BASKETS
- PICTURES • LINGERIE • BLOUSES
- SWEATERS • SLACKS • PANT SUITS
- SLIPPERS • HANDBAGS • COSTUME
- JEWELLERY • PANTY HOSE • APRONS
- BOXED TOWELS • DRESSER SETS
- LUGGAGE • PYJAMAS • NIGHTGOWNS
- ETC.

Refrigerators, freezers, ranges, dishwashers, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, water heaters, laundry equipment washers, dryers, stereos, television (portable and console color and black and white), radios, hairdryers, toasters, irons, can-openers, slicing knives, electric blankets, food mixers, blenders, kettles, coffeemakers, fry pans, heating pads, vacuum cleaners, floor polishers.

- TIMEX WATCHES—20% OFF \$9.95 to \$59.95
- ARTIFICIAL CORSAGES NEATLY BOXED
- POTTED PLANTS and CUT FLOWERS
- MOTHERS' DAY CARDS and FOLDERS BY "CARLTON"

SEE OUR BEAUTIFUL SELECTION OF MOTHERS' DAY GREETING CARDS FOR A THOUGHTFUL REMEMBRANCE PRICED FROM 10¢ TO \$2.50

SMILES 'N CHUCKLES
SPECIALLY PACKAGED
BOXED CHOCOLATES

Hinton's 5¢ to \$1 Store

TABLE TENDER meats FROM LOVELL BROS. MEAT MARKET

— RED BRAND BEEF —

CHOICE—BONELESS

Prime Rib Roast \$1.29 LB.

Lean Shoulder Roast 79¢ LB.

TENDER Blade & Short Rib Roast 85¢ LB.

Lean Stewing Beef 89¢ LB.

Lean Ground Chuck 75¢ LB.

Fresh Pork Shoulders 45¢ LB.

Lean Pork Butts 65¢ LB.

FRESH Small Link Sausage 69¢ LB.

MAPLE LEAF—SLICED

Side Bacon 65¢ LB.

LOVELL BROS.

MODERN MEAT MARKET

77 Mill E. Acton Phone 853-2240
Daily Delivery

GARDEN HEADQUARTERS

Fertilize Your Lawn Now!

- Large Selection of Evergreens — Shrubs and Trees — Fruit Trees — Fruit Bushes — Ready for Planting — Potted Roses — Gladioli

- Fertilizers • Seeds
- Garden Tools
- Patio Stones, Etc.

Open 7 Days a Week—8 a.m. 'Til Dark — Phone 853-2980 — WE WIRE FLOWERS ANYWHERE

Caroline Flower & Garden Shop

TWO MILES WEST OF ACTON — SOUTH SIDE OF HWY.

"TORO" AND "LAWNBOY" MOWERS

MAKE LAWN CARE A PLEASURE: See a Good Selection at

Kirkwood Hardware
NORVAL 877-4042