



PAUL BRAIDA of Acton tries Yamaha's crack racing snowmobile for size during the company's snow show at Park Toyota on Highway 7 near Georgetown Saturday. Yamaha captured the world champion snowmobile races at Eagle River this year, and films of the race were shown for snowmobile enthusiasts from all over the district. Jim Tanner of the company was also present to discuss snowmobile problems. —(Staff Photo)



OFFICIAL OPENING of the Christmas shopping season in downtown Acton came Friday when Dorson (Dobbie) Frizzell and Ken Hodgson of the hydro staff erected and trimmed the town's Christmas tree, donated by Mansell Nellis, trimmed by hydro and arranged through Chamber of Commerce director Paul Nielsen. Star of the show couldn't help but be Dobbie Frizzell with his head in star lights. —(Staff Photos)

A Christmas story:

My donkey Anna Belle

Columnist Jenny Barr usually writes about horses, but on her own volition has agreed to write a story about her pet donkey—a Christmas present last year. The donkey has been associated with Christmas since it carried the Holy Family to enrol at Bethlehem, and then on the flight to Egypt. The donkey's role in the Nativity story interested medieval minds, especially, and the animal was often used to illustrate patience and determination. Here's the first instalment of Jennie's rather unique donkey, called:

ANNA BELLE

In a state of shock, I rode home from Mono Mills with Mary, mentally rephrasing my story. Just how was I to tell Mack that, not only did I fail to sell any horses, but that I had purchased a baby donkey? I have always wanted a baby donkey. However, our stable of varying numbers of horses (ten, at the moment), and an even more varying number of boarding horses, had no room for a donkey. Or so Mack kept telling me. Periodically I would try to convince him we really NEEDED a donkey but, as he supported all these horses for me, I hated to press the issue. So last December first found me travelling to Mono Mills in Mary's ancient truck, ostensibly

to view an Arabian stallion but actually hoping to put in a persuasive word about the quality of our excess horses. I had been reading a book "Donkey Work" about a baby donkey called Annabel. A picture of Annabel pecking around her mother was very appealing and my heart went out to the dear funny story donkey. On arriving at Mono Mills and Fred's farm, we nonchalantly strolled around looking carefully at horses' legs and clucking knowingly. A closed stall interested us, so we peeped in. Rapturous cries escaped us as there before us stood the Annabel and mother of the story book picture. The mother was a very pretty curly donkey with soft eyes and a light brown-grey coat. The baby, a filly, was a dark brown, long haired, sweetheart full of burrs. Her ears, seemingly stuck on with plasticine, waved constantly. Two hairless holes in her mop of hair ringed huge wary eyes. Tiny feet, barely an inch in diameter, supported hairy legs like scarlet O'Hara in pantaloons. Mack bleeds I tore myself away and dutifully inspected the Arabian stallion. Casual inquiries revealed that the donkeys were indeed for sale, separately, as the baby was ready to be weaned. Rapid calculations were done—could I afford to spare some of my teaching salary? A price was

discussed, and discussed, and discussed, until I really couldn't resist. I found myself agreeing to pick her up in two weeks and walking out of the stable owning a donkey, while realizing I'd have to break the news to Mack. He's awfully good about such things and has always put up with my whims, but I'm often wondering when the breaking point will come. Mary agreed to protect me, if necessary, and we drove home. Mack took one look at my face and said "What did you buy?" He was shaving as I casually mentioned the baby donkey. We mopped up the blood, put the kettle on, and started again. A donkey is a great seeing-eye dog for a blind horse, I explained. "Oh my Gosh, you bought a blind horse, too!" was Mack's agonized wail. After much explanation, Mack looked reluctant but said "I don't understand why we have to wait two weeks to bring her home." My Anna Belle was IN! Anna Belle was named after the story Annabel. The spelling of it is to go with Jingle Belle, the name of our 30-year-old pony, who had recently lost her mate. I was hoping Anna Belle would give Jingle a new lease on life but I didn't account for the idiosyncrasies of a senile pony mare.

(To be continued)



FIRST HEAVY SNOWFALL of the season came Monday afternoon and coated now frozen ground with two or three inches of the stuff that Christmases are made of. Tuesday morning town employees were busy cleaning up the business section. Meanwhile, snowmobile operators around town and district had their first real run on their machines, some of them until early hours of the morning, which some residents and police interpreted as running afoul of the law. —(Staff Photo)

Reprint Halton County Atlas

A reprint edition of the rare Halton County Atlas is due to come off the press of an Owen Sound printing firm this week in black, gold-stamped hard cover, 18"x12". An early atlas is a rare expensive item and the Walker and Miles Halton county Atlas is one of the finest of the 31 Atlases published from 1875-1881 in Ontario.

Although there is a patron's directory, a historical sketch and township maps, the sketches are the most attractive parts of the Atlas. Long before the invention of the airplane, the artists were able to picture farms and

businesses in almost three dimensional perspective. Several of the illustrations concern Acton and district. Former Halton County warden William Coulter has written a foreword to the reprint edition which may be bought from Mark Cumming, Port Elgin, Ont. (\$9.50 postpaid).

WATERFALLS LODGE
R. R. 1, Limehouse, Ontario
Ice Skating — Snowmobiling
Snowmobile Rentals
Competition Snowmobile Tracks
Entertainment Dec. 17-18
Telephone 877-4412

County warden Oakes hosts dinner Friday

Together for the first time in five years, all the Oakes family stood in the receiving line at the warden's dinner in Oakville Friday. Acton's reeve Dr. Frank Oakes and Betty Oakes were joined by three daughters and their husbands, their son and his wife. A crowd of 180 was welcomed by the county's outgoing warden at the pleasant social evening. After dinner, the traditional witty speeches and presentations, there was dancing to recorded music. Long guest list The event was held in Oakville Legion Hall. There is no hall in the warden's home town large enough to accommodate a warden's guest list which includes county council, past wardens, mayors, county judiciary, heads of departments, others associated with the office and a few personal friends. This year all Acton council and town staff attended as well. Wives; many in long gowns, doubled the number of guests. "It's a wonderful way to close out the year—with friends," commented Dr. Oakes genially. His remarks were brief and non-political, although he referred to opposition to regional government. Warden's gifts He was presented with the traditional gavel from county council as well as a beautifully

engaged watch. Nassagaweya reeve Mrs. Anna MacArthur thanked him for his "tolerant and restrained leadership." Mrs. Oakes accepted flowers and spoke graciously. Mayor Doby presented from the town of Acton a crystal vase and roses. Others to receive bouquets were Mrs. Alan Sprague, Mrs. Jack Armstrong and Mrs. Harry Dawson. Series of toasts The toast to the warden was proposed by Acton deputy-reeve G. W. McKenzie who summarized his career as public school board member, mayor, hydro commissioner, deputy-reeve and reeve, fair board member and church member, ranging from 1940. Dr. Oakes began his veterinary practice in Acton in 1938. The toast to county council was proposed by his Honor Judge Sprague, and responded to by Burlington reeve Jim Swanborough. The toast to the past wardens was proposed by Oakville reeve Allan Masson and last year's warden, Allan Day, responded. The past wardens present were Mr. Day, Jack Milne, George Currie, J. J. Stewart, H. H. Hinton, Bill Coulter, now of Port Elgin, George Leslie, Carl Martin, Gordon Gallagher, Stan Allen, Bill Card, Doug Sargent, and Bill Hunter.

Five wardens Four other wardens also attended: Peel warden I. Parsons, Wentworth warden Young, Dufferin warden Brown and Wellington warden Ross, with wives. M.P. Rud Whiting and Minister of the Environment George Kerr also attended, as well as Judges Langdon and Sharpe. Former Georgetown mayor Jack Armstrong was chairman. The Rev. Harry Dawson of St. Alban's Acton, said Grace. Daughters, son, grandchildren Welcoming the crowd with the Oakes were three daughters, (Carolyn) Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Gregory, Hamilton; (Peggy) Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lawson and son Ted, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; (Frances) Mr. and Mrs. Russ Gaulton and daughter Jo Ann,

Grimsby; and son George and his wife, Eleanor and daughter Nancy, Etobicoke. Younger grandchildren left at home were Doug and Kelly Gaulton and Steven and Kevin Oakes. Dr. Oakes' two sisters also attended, Margaret and Gordon Swanston, Rockwood, and Mary and Bruce Freure, Guelph. The weekend family reunion also included an early Christmas dinner in Acton on Sunday, when all 17 in the family were together.

H. S. HOLDEN
OPTOMETRIST
36 Cork St. East
GUELPH
Phone TA 2-7158

CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR OTHERS
1. Applications for Christmas Hampers and Donations should be made direct to The Salvation Army.
2. Applications should be made (in writing) before December 11th and should fully state name, address, names and ages of children and reason for the need.
3. Anonymous letters or telephone calls cannot be accepted. Address all correspondence to: The Salvation Army, 80 Waterloo Avenue, Box 1146, Guelph, Ontario.

Halton Federation of Agriculture
ANNUAL MEETING AND BANQUET
TUESDAY DEC. 7 7.00 P.M.
HILLCREST UNITED CHURCH
TRAFALGAR ROAD

ROXY THEATRE MILTON
SHOW TIME Sun. through Thurs. 8 p.m. Fri. & Sat. 7 p.m. & 9 p.m. Sat. Matinee 2 p.m.
Thu. 2 Fri. 3 Sat. 4
First Planet then Beneath now
ESCAPE FROM THE PLANET APES
Sun. 5 Mon. 6 Tue. 7 Wed. 8
THURS. 9
THE GREAT ESCAPE
FRI. 10
THE TREASURES OF THE WORLD
SAT. 11
KIRK DOUGLAS JOHNNY CASH "A GUNFIGHT"
SAT. MAT. 11
AN ELEPHANT CALLED SLOWLY

"IGA SPECIAL"
MAXWELL HOUSE
Coffee 83¢
1-LB. BAG

"IGA SPECIALS"
E. D. SMITH
GARDEN COCKTAIL 3 35 OZ. \$1
SWIFT
BEEF OR IRISH STEW 49¢
OR BEANS & WIENERS 24 OZ. TIN

"IGA SPECIAL"
IGA CHOICE
Cream Style Corn OR Peas 19¢
19 OZ. TIN

"IGA SPECIAL"
DECOR (ASSORTED COLORS)
Toilet Tissue 53¢
4-ROLL PKG.

"IGA SPECIALS"
IGA CHOICE
FRUIT COCKTAIL 45¢
22 OZ. TIN
VEL. LIQUID DETERGENT 39¢
24 OZ. BTL.

Fresh! CHICKEN QUARTERS 39¢ LB.
MAPLE LEAF READY-TO-SERVE SMOKED PICNIC SHOULDER 49¢ LB.

Christmas Record Albums
Christmas with GLEN CAMPBELL (STEREO) ONLY \$1.29 each
Christmas with ANDY WILLIAMS and The Williams Brothers

EXTRA SPECIAL!
SHAMROCK ICE CREAM 69¢
1/2 Gal.

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