



FIRE COMPLETELY destroyed the barn, 150 Roland Height, R. R. 1, Acton. Mr. Height was pigs, hay and farm equipment on the farm of away when flames broke out and returned to



see a year's work in flames. Acton firefighters was no insurance on the contents. confined the roaring blaze to the barn. There (Photo by D. Plink)

Plan arena wind study

Engineering figures presented at last Wednesday night's emergency joint meeting of town council and parks board by engineer Alfred Chan left both bodies with a somewhat easier feeling about the safety of the Acton arena, but both agreed a wind analysis study should be done on the entire building immediately.

Chan, who expressed the opinion at a recent parks board meeting that the building is not safe during periods of high winds, revealed his study showed that winds would have to be in excess of 48 miles per hour with gusts up to 80 to endanger the building.

No study
Wind analysis was not included in the original study on the building done in 1969, because it was assumed it had already been stressed against the wind.

Parks board chairman Councillor Orval Chapman said this week the board will proceed as quickly as possible with

repairs and reinforcing of the west wall, which abuts the community centre building.

"It hasn't been confirmed yet, but we hope to be able to get the contractors in and have the work done between the Acton Fall Fair and the September 30 Lions Club dance," he said.

await report
Chapman said the board hopes to have a report on the wind analysis study by the end of the month. If the report recommends more immediate work, the board will definitely meet again with council to assess the problem, he said.

Until work on the west wall is completed, Chapman made it clear the board will take no chances if a storm or high winds should develop.

"If we happen to get a serious wind storm or see one coming, we'll close the building down for the night," he said.

Repairs to the west wall will include a system of cross-bracing to protect against the wind.

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Pigs, farm machinery lost in barn fire

Livestock, including 20 sows, 100 small pigs and one calf, two hay balers, one hay loader and assorted farm implements were destroyed in a Labor Day blaze which levelled the barn on the former McLaughlin farm, near the intersection of 25 Sideroad and the Esquesing-Nassagaweya town line.

A large amount of hay and feed

was also lost in the late afternoon fire, which whipped by strong winds, was burning out of control when Acton firefighters answered the call about 4.30 p.m.

Neither Roland Height, who is a tenant on the farm owned by Impera Farm Management Ltd. Toronto nor his family were at home at the time of the fire. It is believed neighbors turned in the

alarm then rushed to the scene to try to keep the fire from spreading.

Chief praises

Acton fire chief Mick Holmes paid tribute to neighbors and passers-by who smothered burning grass and prevented the fire from spreading to fences. A number of cows which were in a field near the barn were also

herded away to safety.

Firefighters hosed down the roof of the stone farmhouse on the property as a precautionary measure as soon as they arrived. The house is located only about 100 yards away. An implement shed less than 100 feet away from the barn was singed but a brand new tractor inside was pushed to a safe spot by neighbors.

Second truck

Chief Holmes ordered a second fire truck to the scene to help pump water from a farm pond on the other side of 25 Sideroad. Firefighters remained at the scene hosing down the burning rubble for four hours.

Livestock destroyed belonged to Mr. Height. One baler and much of the hay was the property

of a neighbor Gord Thompson who keeps horses.

The fire attracted an unusually large crowd of holidayers who were driving in the country. Because of the barn's location high on a hill it is reported smoke could be seen as far south as Milton. Cause of the blaze is undetermined.

Full complement nurses at Halton Health Unit

The Halton County Health Unit now has a full complement of nurses to work in North Halton following the hiring of Miss Ruth Coulton of Burlington. Miss Coulton starts in the middle of September bringing the quota of nurses up to six, including the supervisor, Mrs. Frances Jamieson, of Georgetown.

The nurses will work out of the Georgetown and Milton offices in a "team nursing" program, instead of being relegated to a certain territory as in past years, new director Dorothy Craig said.

Team nursing has been tried in Burlington and the director of nurses at the Health Unit advised this newspaper that the experience was educational as

well as being a satisfactory way of nursing. It enabled nurses to spread their talents around when more than one person is involved.

Off the hook?

Hiring of Miss Coulton takes the Health Unit off the hook insofar as Acton Deputy Reeve G. W. (Pat) McKenzie is concerned. He gave the Health Unit until September 1 to make up the full complement of 31 nurses or he would make an issue of it.

McKenzie and Esquesing Reeve Tom Hill joined forces in a fight at the county Board of Health to get better health services in the north end of Halton following the disclosure in this newspaper that there was a lack of adequate care, caused princi-

pally by lack of staff.

Now that the staff is up to its full complement the Health Unit is embarking on a full program for the North Halton area including prenatal classes in Acton, Georgetown and Milton and classes for parents of pre-school age children, starting in October, Miss Craig said.

Included in the staff serving North Halton are Mrs. Betty Mercer, Mrs. Loveday Tuck, Mrs. Joyce Reid, Miss Joanne Bearinger, and Miss Ruth Coulter with Mrs. Frances Jamieson, supervisor.

People in North Halton who wish to contact the Health Unit can call either the Georgetown office or Milton.



Ripping up the Bower.

Bower gouges

Work continues on Bower Ave. this week as heavy machinery rips up old pavement and gouges out earth to prepare the street for regrading and levelling. Excavation has carried down the street from Mill, past the post office and is expected to be completed today (Wednesday).

Workmen follow the machinery, laying gravel on the road and placing curbs at the side of the street.

Work is expected to be completed in three to four weeks, depending on the weather. At that time the street will be wider with new asphalt and sidewalks.

Contractor Warren Bitulth of Downsview undertook the project for a tender price of \$68,544.20.

Six candidates in two ridings

After months of speculation Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau has called the federal election for Oct. 30. In Halton riding the contest will see sitting Liberal MP Rud Whiting running for his second term and first re-election against Progressive Conservative candidate Terry O'Connor and NDP Carolyn Holstein. Mrs. Holstein won't officially be nominated until Sept. 13 but no one is contesting the nomination yet.

Whiting defeated PC candidate and former crown attorney Peter McWilliams in 1968 with a margin of 4,600 votes and topped NDP Murray Kernighan by 9,000.

In Halton-Wentworth it will be all new faces as Liberal Norm McGuinness moves in to take over from John Morrison who was defeated within his own ranks. NDP Dixon Bailey and PC Bill Kemppling are also in the race.

Ready to roll

Liberal Rud Whiting said both he and the party machinery were ready to roll into another election. Liberal workers in the Milton area and the rest of the riding have been prepared for the past few weeks.

PC Terry O'Connor has been campaigning for several months, has made some public appearances and has done a great deal of door to door work.

His campaign will be headed by Bob Jones of Oakville. Party workers have described Jones as an articulate worker and an excellent organizer.

Newcomer

NDP candidate Carolyn Holstein appeared on the political front just last week after the announcement of Stephen Alcock's decision to resign as NDP candidate. Alcock said his reasons were personal.

Mrs. Holstein is a resident of Erin and a school teacher in Brampton. Asked if the party

would try to capture the women's vote by having a woman candidate, party president Bill Fokhardt said there was no such strategy planned.

"Mrs. Holstein agreed to run and we were delighted."

The Halton riding includes Oakville, Milton, Acton, Esquesing, Georgetown, Erin and Erin Township. Halton-Wentworth includes Burlington, Nassagaweya, Dundas, East and West Flamborough.

Cars stolen

An Acton man faces four charges of theft over \$200 and one charge of theft under \$200 value following investigation by three police detachments.

Charges were laid by Acton, Milton and Shelburne police detachments.

Involved in the investigation were two stolen cars and the theft of gasoline from a car.

On Monday a car stolen from Milton was recovered in the parking lot at the apartments on Churchill Rd. S. Following a chase, another car, stolen from Shelburne, was located on Steeles Ave. It has been spotted and reported in Acton by the Acton O.P.P.

\$310 damage

Only car accident of the week in town involved a car driven by Raymond Stull, R.R. 5, Milton and a parked car owned by Lennox Mitchell, Poplar Ave. The parked car had estimated \$300 damage in the Main N. collision Monday, Sept. 4 at 4.10 p.m. The Stull car's damage was set by investigating police at \$10.

Disappointing attendance at Sportsmen's Show

The biggest gun show ever held and a successful bicycle rodeo were highlights of the three day Acton Sportsmen's Show which organizers hope will "break even" after disappointing attendance at events.

"We were better organized than we have ever been," said chairman Morris Staley, "but there was a definite lack of support from the people."

Friday's opening dance to the polkas and rousing rhythms of Nick Osbelt's German band was a "disaster" organizers said. Only 150 showed up to enjoy the evening in the attractively decorated arena.

Recoup losses

Losses from the first dance were recouped Saturday night when Acton's always popular Shaynes played for 4 or 500 dancers, who appeared despite the attraction of a Canada-Russia hockey game and other nearby events. Rotarians ran a Millionaires Night as an added attraction.

Sunday's gun show attracted about 1,000 patrons from all over the province and the Halton Antique Arms Collectors Association tabbed it the biggest

and best ever. The Acton shows are believed to be the largest in Canada.

Saturday's field activities started off with a small parade led by Acton Citizens' Band and featuring decorated bicycles, minor ball and soccer players, decorated wagons, soap boxes, a few pets, the Bramalea Lions mini-bikers, the town fire truck and commercial entries from Country Mart farm equipment.

The parade route went down Mill St. from the CN station to the park where the prize for the best decorated bicycle went to Kathleen Cheyne. Chairman Staley presented Kathleen with the trophy.

Bicycle Rodeo

This was followed by the bicycle rodeo supervised by Corporal Watson of Burlington O.P.P. and Constable Bruce McArthur of the Acton detachment. There were 42 entries for the two CCM 10 speed bicycles on a course which contestants found was laid out to challenge the best riders.

Winners were Jamie Ellerby with a score of 95 and Sue Bennett took the girls' prize with a 75. Ron Kulken, Matt Spehar and

Gary Pickles were runners-up with a score of 90 while Teresa Luty, and Ann Bomans shared the girls' second place finish with a mark of 70.

"The O.P.P. would like to build up this part of the show," said chairman Staley. "They are enthusiastic about starting the program in the schools and building up to a finale at next year's show."

Simultaneously with the bike rodeo, horseshoe pitchers were playing a series on pitches laid out on the baseball diamond. Merv Nessett proved he was the champion ringer in the singles and he teamed with another former westerner, Jack Drysdale, to capture the doubles as well.

Pull contest

The Lions Club and the Rams lacrosse club challenged Acton Rotarian Club in the tug-of-war contest but the Rotarians proved they have more "pull" than anyone else in town with relatively easy wins over the challengers.

Someone remarked that all the money was with the Rotarians since they had three bank managers on their team. Gary

Dawkins anchored the champs who refused to give more than a couple of inches.

The two day fishing derby had several entries with Tom Feenstra of R. R. 1, Acton, landing a 23-inch pike and the trophy. Michael Dawson of Acton was a close second with a 21½" pike he caught in the northern arm of Fairy Lake.

Saturday's cool overcast weather was followed by warmer, sunnier stuff Sunday and it also kicked off the federal election campaign in Acton. Halton's Liberal M.P. Rud Whiting and Progressive Conservative candidate Terry O'Connor were both out making election hay while the sun shone. Mr. Whiting also took a non-competitive fling at tossing the boomerang.

Six entrants

There were six official entrants in the boomerang contest before it was decided the only woman entry, Joyce Carpenter, would get the prize—a free trip "across the pond", which turned out to be in a row boat across Fairy Lake.

Other entrants were Denis Gibbons of the Free Press, Ralph

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JAMIE ELLERBY (34) and Sue Bennett (28) won the bicycle rodeo sponsored by the O.P.P. at Saturday's sportsmen's show and accepted new 10-speed CCM bicycles for their efforts. Success of the rodeo could make it an annual event. Corporal

Watson of the Burlington O.P.P. laid out the course assisted by Constable McArthur of Acton O.P.P. detachment. Sportsmen's show chairman M. Staley, left, and Don McDonald, right, assisted in the prize giving. (H. Coles photo)