

Much work, no help closing Acton plant?

Councillor Norm Elliott wants Acton council to contact the accuracy bureau of the largest Toronto daily newspaper following a story which suggested that the Acton branch plant of Adams Knitting Ltd. is closing Friday because of inability to hire help.

In Monday's Toronto Star, Lloyd Fuller, president of the company, is reported to have said the plant in Acton planned to hire 65 workers but it never employed more than 16.

"We never got it off the ground," he is reported to have said. "Eligibility rules for unemployment benefits were changed in January and gradually became known over the next three months. The original concept of benefits was wonderful for someone thrown out of work. I'm not against that. But for someone to just walk off voluntarily and get benefits—it's inconceivable."

He also said 45 of his workers in Toronto walked out and are on un-

employment and he has \$360,000 worth of business on the books he can't get out.

Councillor Elliott challenged the Star story, asserting that he "had it on good authority the company had over 65 applications for jobs when it opened and many employees of the now defunct Mason Knit company who applied for jobs were never hired."

"I'm concerned," he told council Tuesday night. The story could be

picked up by other industries interested in locating here and will give the impression there is a shortage of labor here when there isn't, Elliott said.

"I'd like to see it investigated and retracted."

Mayor Les Duby agreed the story sounded like something was wrong. He recalled another company in the same line of work had over 85 applications for jobs. The company, however,

decided against locating in Acton when it was discovered there was no financial assistance available from the government development branch.

The mayor has often suggested one of Acton's crying needs is for light manufacturing suitable for women.

The item in Monday's Toronto Star was part of a larger article which claimed there is a glut of jobs in the needle trades. Although business has never been better businessmen are

frustrated by the inability to get the labor to turn out the goods.

One estimate is that there are 8,000 jobs begging in the industry across Canada for sewing machine operators, 1,500 of them in the Metro area. Businessmen blame the newly generous unemployment benefits for the problem.

The Free Press tried to contact Adams president Lloyd Fuller for his comments but he was unavailable.

Ninety-Eighth Year. — No. 15

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1972

Sixteen Pages — Fifteen Cents



ACTON'S RESIDENTIAL STREETS are a riot of color this week with autumn leaves transformed from their summer vestiture of green into millions of Joseph's coats. Lake Avenue's maples are indicative of the trans-

formation which in spite of its color is really a prelude to the fall of the leaves and winter. Residents awoke Tuesday morning to a white frost, harbinger of cooler weather in the future.

(H. Coles Photo)

After six years

Complete land deal

After six years of negotiations—the second time around—Acton council finally completed a land exchange deal between the municipality, Beardmore and R. R. Parker at the corner of Mill and Park Sts.

The corner has been reconstructed and six feet on one side of the road transferred to the town by deed in exchange for property adjacent to the home of R. R. Parker, where half of Mr. Parker's porch was on town property.

Negotiations included an advertisement in the Free Press which in legal terminology meant "stopping up" part of Mill St. W. and this confused some residents said clerk J. T. Hurst. Some thought council was going to stop up the street. However only a few feet of land is involved.

Fears expressed by Councillor Marks that a possible hedge on the property might obstruct vision on the corner were

recognized by council but they turned down the suggestion that the by-law authorizing the transfer be held up until further advice was sought.

"We can control hedge rows by other means. We can't justify holding up the by-law," said the mayor, noting there were more pressing problems at other intersections.



Pierre was here! See page 3.

Appoint John Goy to Development Commission

Acton council accepted the recommendation of the Development Commission and appointed J. H. Goy to fill the vacancy on the commission created by the resignation of Paul Nielsen.

"Mr. Goy will be a worthwhile addition and his wide and varied experience will go a long way to

assist the commission," noted Councillor Elliott, acting as chairman of the committee of the whole.

"We are fortunate Mr. Goy is making himself available again," agreed the mayor.

The commission also notified council Ted Tyler Jr. has been appointed chairman.



P. F. DUNHAM

Peter Dunham new president

G. H. Dickson chairman of the Board of Beardmore and Co. Ltd. has announced the election of P. F. Dunham as President and the appointment of C. A. Conway as assistant general manager.

Mr. Dunham succeeds J. H. Creighton who retired recently following 50 years service with the company.



C. A. CONWAY

May start ice making

Providing weather remains cool, arena manager Harold Townsley will start ice making machinery in motion tomorrow (Thursday) night.

Repairs to the west wall have been completed and jacks were removed this week.

Reeve ill

Mayor Les Duby expressed the concern of Acton council over the illness of Reeve Dr. Frank Oakes at the regular meeting of council, Tuesday.

The reeve was taken to hospital and is under special care for a heart ailment.

The mayor said doctors hope he will be able to return to normal activities after treatment in hospital.

Meet the candidates Wednesday, Oct. 19

All is set for the Meet the Candidates Night at the Robert Little School on Wednesday, October 19 sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

The three Halton candidates in the federal election have agreed to appear and will be given 10 minutes each to speak on their own platform. A question and answer period will follow.

Acton Chamber of Commerce officials have contacted Acton Citizens' Band and it has been agreed the band will lead a parade through town prior to the program at the school. It will be up to the candidates and their supporters to arrange the form of their own parade entry.

Ajax strike Still not settled

No immediate settlement appears likely in the strike against Ajax Engineers by 20 employees, members of Local 7515 United Steelworkers.

Workers walked off the job Friday, September 22, after union membership voted to reject a 7 per cent wage increase offer made by the company.

Local 7515 president Doug Vickery said a meeting between company and union negotiators was held last Wednesday, but it lasted only a short while as neither side could agree.

He said two trucks from a non-unionized firm crossed picket lines Thursday and removed two large towers that are manufactured at the plant. He said picketers made no attempt to stop the trucks.

Vickery said there is no sign of a meeting between union and management in the near future.

Switch lights missing at CNR

Four switch oil lamps were reported missing from the C.N.R. trucks on Eastern Ave. over the weekend. The CNR police from Kitchener reported the apparent theft to Acton OPP. The red and green globes are of a type being replaced by plastic, and would be considered collector's items.

It appears that the globes were taken off their bases by wrench.

Brothers get terms

Brothers Henry and Robert Calver were given terms in jail when they appeared in provincial court in Milton last Wednesday before Judge W. Sharpe.

The two brothers were convicted the week before of nine charges each ranging from break and enter to forgery and uttering.

Robert Calver, 26 years of age, received a three year term in penitentiary. His brother Henry, 32, was sentenced to reformatory for 18 months.

The break-ins in Acton which resulted in charges included those at Blow Press Ltd., L and L Ford Sales and Tyler Transport.



GUESS WHO took out passport to Halton? Jill and Jay, admire the big cowhide rug at Warden Swanborough - the sponsor of the whole idea. He and his family got to know Acton on Sunday, and here his two children, by K. Dills)

263 passports stamped here

Beardmore gate house staff kept track of the number of Passports to Halton they stamped on the Thanksgiving weekend, and totalled 263.

Sunday was by far the busiest day with 136 stamped.

The Passports to Halton promotion ends next weekend. Displays of hides and parts of

shoes had been set up inside the Beardmore office and someone was on hand to answer questions from the visitors.

In the community centre a display had been arranged with a table for stamping of Passports.

Continuous slides of Acton and other neighboring spots were shown, with photos, flags and a

display by Bovis homes. Passports were picked up in various locations including the county building, town office and Free Press building and are still available.

They are stamped, Expo-style, as Halton residents call in at a series of recommended high spots of the county.

Miss Erin Fair

The next person to sell you groceries may just be...Miss Erin Fair!

Blond Lydia Dudnik was chosen Saturday at Erin to represent the fair during the year and at the C.N.E. competition next year for Miss Ontario Fair.

She's well known in the locality since she helps her parents, Dymitry and Rima Dudnik, at their general store in Ospringe.

Other contenders First runner up in the contest was Karen Manes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Manes of

Erin, who are well-known in Acton through the IGA store.

Karen couldn't ride in the convertible with the winners in the Monday parade. She was up front, leading her group of baton majorettes.

Second runner up was Evelyn Eastlin of Rockwood and the other two charming entrants were Shirley Bonus of Rockwood and Patty Perrin of Erin.

They were selected on the basis of interview, impromptu speeches and parading on stage in the Erin arena.

At Milton When the Dudnik family lived at Moffat, Lydia attended Milton high school for four years. She went to Erin high school before starting the U. of G. She has a brother Sandy, who's in grade 8 at Ospringe school and a sister Natalie who is now working in Toronto.

Lydia was "completely taken aback" and didn't know what to say; she admits that's pretty unusual!

She is the second Miss Erin Fair to be chosen.



MISS ERIN FAIR is Lydia Dudnik, left, and one of her runners-up is Evelyn Eastlin, right. Lydia lives at Ospringe where her parents operate the general store. The two had a chilly ride at Erin fair Monday. (Photo by W. Thomson)