

ELMER SMITH

Retired five months W.D. Elmer Smith dies

Many of the same people who had happily applauded Elmer Smith at Principals Recognition Day in May were together again Remembrance Day afternoon, part of a mournful crowd of 450 attending his funeral at Trinity United church.

In his fifth month of retirement, Elmer Smith died suddenly Thursday afternoon. Word spread through town swiftly although dis-belief was the first reaction. He was 62 years of age, and he and Mrs. Smith had hoped to do a good deal of travelling now their years of teaching were over.

The church was filled for the service and flowers banked the front steps.

Remembrance Day was appropriate as Dr. W. G. Onlons and the Rev. A. H. McKenzie both spoke personally of Mr. Smith during the funeral service. The church choir led in hymns.

Pallbearers were Bing Ramsden, former principal G. W. McKenzie, former vice-principal Walter Dubois, present M. Z. Bennett school principal Gary Dawkins, present M. Z. Bennett school vice-principal Dave Ballentine and teacher Gary Bate-

Interment was Monday morning in Fairview cemetery.

Sunday was chosen for the funeral service, when more associates and former pupils

could attend. On just such cold November days Elmer Smith had many times played the Last Post, Mr. McKenzie

recalled.

Deep Imprint He spoke of the deep imprint Mr. Smith left on all the community as a father, friend and advisor. He gave an invaluable demonstration of teamwork in education over three decades-the loyalties that sustained him were his home and famlly, his work as a teacher and principal, the principals association, the North Balton music association which might have ceased to exist without him, the fall fairs and the school's participation in them, music

through his own band and Acton Citizens' Band, the Y's Men of which he was n member 23 years, the Y program and the building it-

Mr. McKenzie also recalled his character-quiet, sincere, modest and unassuming. At the time of the principals Recognition Day, Mr. Smith admitted he'd just as soon "have left quietly", Now, Mr. McKenzie recalled, he has done just that.

llis influence will travel down through the years.
Dr. Onlons voiced the hopes and aspirations that must be spoken when ignorant and humble people are faced with death. Life is not meaning-

less, he concluded.

Elmer Smith's teaching career began at Alton in 1933; he was principal there and at Rockwood before coming to Acton during the war as vice-

principal. He became principal of the new M. Z. Bennett school in

Mr. Smith is survived by his wife Vivian (Wallis), sons and daughters David of St. George, Brian of Acton, Norm of Montreal, Vivian (Mrs. William Nicholson) of Grand Valley and Julie of London.

A "day of memories" was the town's gift to retiring principals Elmer Smith and G. W. McKenzle last May 26. Hundreds attended an afternoon reception, dinner and dance in their honor.

Their harmonious relationships and high standards were especially stressed that

School hushed Few students at the M. Z. Bennett school knew of Mr. Smith's death until their new principal Gary Dawkins addressed the school on the intercom Friday morning. He spoke feelingly of their for-

mer principal and impressed the young people deeply. For the rest of the day the whole school seemed hushed, the usual good spirits and liveliness of the students completely gone. Flags at the schools flew at

half mast.

NINETY-NINTH YEAR NO. 20

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1973

Thirty-Four Pages-Fifteen Cents

Acton's schools may get crowded

school accommodation in during the past five years, Acton is a difficult one, even though the population of Assistant Director of the town had grown con-Education E. M. Lavender siderably. told the Halton Board of He indicated that projec-Education Thursday night. tions show a potential of 314

The problem of future in Acton had not increased

Lavender said the new elementary students elementary school population from housing developments

"The problem is a difficult with a capacity of 740.
one. While Robert Little The additional 314 stu

the drawing boards. School is a fine old building, it Lavender explained that is inadequate in many ways." elementary schools and the M.Z. Bennett is rated as secondary school in Acton having a capacity of 600, with would be overcrowded if the 539 children now attending housing plans reached school there. At Robert Little, 595 students attend the school

The additional 314 students

November itinerary for

several years, thanks to ef-forts of Mike Kinal of Home

Hardware he has agreed to

visit Acton this Saturday

Mr. Kinal said he thought

Acton should be participating in the annual welcome to

Santa and he has gone ahead

to arrange the visit to his

Santa will start out from

the arena and parade along

Bower and Mill Sts to

Churchill Road, then he'll

. 0

turn around and visit the

afternoon.

Santa Claus is

here Saturday

Although Santa Claus has store of his sponsor for the not had this town on his rest of the afternoon. He's

secondary and elementary 1974. schools can handle.

Lavender sald portable classrooms will relieve pressure at both schools during the school year 1974-75 but noted future needs of

coming back to visit every

Thursday and Friday from 6

to 8 p.m. and all day Satur-

Santa is going to distribute candy canes, just a little

touch of the sweetness of

Mr. Kinal said he would like

to make Santa's visit to Acton

in November an annual event

but much will depend on the

success of this year's ven-

ture. If it is successful, next

year he intends to offer a \$100

prize for the best float and

create more Christmas at-

mosphere in town.

would bring the enrolment school facilities in town will over and above what the require close examination in

Lavender indicated the growth at the elementary level, if it materializes, will have implications for Acton District High School. His report to the board Thursday. dealt only with elementary enrolment but he suggested a future report would deal with the implications at Acton District High School and other high schools in the

Car wrecked in collision

In a collision at the sixth line and No. 7 highway Friday afternoon, a car driven by Dan McTavish was totally wrecked and a truck driven by Joseph Auncoln, Weston, had estimated \$800 damage. Dan had cuts and bruises but was not admitted to hospital. The damage to the McTavish car was estimated at \$2,000.



Chairman argues with separatists

HALTON CHAIRMAN ALLAN Masson reasons with his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. David Masson about the advantages of remaining in the new Halton region but they are not convinced. David is a trustee in Eden Mills, one of three who arranged separation of the village from Halton into Wellington County.

Set Christmas bus in motion from the C. of C. on the pro-Although council has still not heard from the Chamber posed 50-50 cost sharing, but

of Commerce concerning Christmas bus service cost sharing, they passed a resolution to proceed Tuesday evening. Council will engage Tyler Transport to operate the bus cost is \$58 a day.

have decided to revert back

to the original zoning on their

property for the third phase

have 61 R1 residences and 57

R2 residences-all single

family homes. They had con-

sidered condominium-type

Councillors Tuesday ex-

pressed their pleasure that

housing before.

Low density

in subdivision

had not. They agreed if the Chamber cannot assume their part of the expense, council is prepared to carry on without them. There will be a charge of Dec. 10 to Dec. 24. Estimated ten cents a ride this year.

Routes and times will be Council had hoped to hear advertised in the Free Press.



Beverley Norton

R.N.A. Acton Meadows developers there would be no density degree

Maps of the new plan show a slight jog in the extension of Beverley Norton R.N.A. graduated from Conestoga of the subdivision. They will Acton Blvd. north, with Me-College of Applied Arts on Donald Blvd. continuing cast Oct. 1. She is the daughter of Recommendation of the Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Norton.

town engineer will be sought Guelph St. on approval for five model Beverley is presently homes for the phase to be working in surgery at K-W erected soon south of Division hospital, Kitchener.

Halton chairman's son leads Eden Mills into Wellington

which have cropped up for Halton's regional chairman Allan Masson in arranging the transformation from county to region has all been

in the family. While Allan Masson was busy arranging the transition, son David, a resident of Eden Mills, has been one of the trustees arranging for transfer of part of the village

into Wellington County. Nothing personal involved, being a separatist, David says with relish. It's just that Eden Mills wants to be one

unit in one county or region,

Council Tuesday authorized

R. V. Anderson Associates

engineers to start the designs

on the pumphouse, controls,

power requirements and con-

necting water mains as soon

as possible, so the work may

Crowley Groundwater

Services had been engaged by

the town to determine the

been in the past.

Part of Eden Mills lies in Eramosa township. Wellington County, and part in Nassagaweya township, Halton county. When village trustees got

wind of the new regional government set-up for Halton they started proceedings to spirit that part of the village now in Halton Wellington. Residents were polled as to their wishes and the majority decided they would prefer to gravitate

towards Wellington because of closer ties.

Start design for well

ground stream and huge

Appearance

the site, however deputy-

sort of underground con-

gated by the engineer. He

struction should be investi- be sought.

Plans had been to erect a

waterfall, they indicated the

A new town well will be future location of a new well

drilled at the tip of Prospect and after tracing an under-

be completed next summer. reeve Peter Marks felt some

agreed the move would be in there for the regional the best interests of the residents who now can all send their children to one school jurisdiction instead of some going to Halton schools and others attending those in

Wellington, as in the past. Although the Massons are pulling in different directions on political boundaries. David Massons are supporting chairman Allan in his new post with obvious pride. Both Mr. and Mrs. David Masson and children attended the swearing in has the same liking for ceremony for father Allan at smaller places.

recalled that Mr. Crowley

had said this could be done

above ground. Mr. Marks

to have a utility shack at the

Councillor Earl Masales

underground because of the

The engineer's advice will

proximity to the lake.

end of the beautiful park.

with just the switch panel

park would be the best thought it would be a shame

temporary utility building at . doubted it would be possible

One of the unusual wrinkles not a divided hamlet as it has Even Halton officials Queen's Park and were also inaugural at Burlington.

The Massons moved to

Eden Mills a few years ago so their children could enjoy the advantages of a rurul-urban setting David grew up with as a boy in Oakville. He still works in Oakville with the Ford company. He admits taking a ribbing because of his rural leanings but says they can keep the bigger places. He likes Eden Mills. Wife Lallie, a former resident of Northern Ontario,

Vandals

Vandals are blamed for a

fire Sunday afternoon on the

fourth line of Nassagaweya.

Logs and an old hydro reel

had been placed at the door of

a small cottage and appar-

ently set alight A passer-by

reported the blaze which was

extinguished before any dam-

age was done to the building.

Neighbora did not know the

name of the owner of the

building. Fire chief Mick Hol-

mes says there will not be an

investigation.

blamed

Hydro to still hold decorating contest

problem there.

to Churchill Rd.

Acton Hydro Commission will continue to sponsor its Christmas house decorating contest. commissioners finally agreed Thursday night.

The contest, with prizes of \$75, \$50 and \$25, had already been announced and members decided not to change their minds despite talk of power shortages, a letter of criticism appearing in the Free Press, and an Ontario Hydro decision to curtail its own decorative lighting. Commissioner Bob

MacArthur pointed out Ontario Hydro Chairman George Cathercole had said there was no shortage of power in Ontario.

The amount of power used light Christmas decorations in Acton wouldn't keep the lights in a Toronto high-rise on for two seconds, observed commissioner Ted Tyler Sr.

Christmas for Christmas outdoor lighting is negligible.

Later date However, they decided to change the judging date to after Monday, Dec. 17, so lights would not necessarily burn too long. They also checked the wording and decided it should stress "Christmas decorating contest" rather than Christmas lighting. Good effects can be obtained with other things than lights, they

The local commission had

also received a letter from Ontario Muncipal Electrical Association drawing their attention to Ontario Hydro's decision to curtail decorative lighting on their own buildings, and suggesting the commission review its policy on decorative lighting keeping in mind the "need for

Ontario Hydro is cutting down but they're still going to have lights, Mr. MacArthur observed. The town sure looks a lot more cheerful with lights at Christmas.

setting a good public

Poliution "They're increasing skidoo sales," commented Mayor Les Duby, meaning more gas and more pollution. A

flight south consumes 90 gallons a minute. One flight to Jamaica would take care of this town for a couple of

After wavering toward cancellation of the contest because of possible criticism. members agreed to carry on with it.

Boosting Mr. MacArthur's inclination to proceed Mr. Tyler reiterated, "The amount of power doesn't mean a thing. The contest isn't telling

people to decorate more, added the mayor, as he came over to their point of view. They'll decorate anyway. An out-of-town judge will be contacted with judging to be done on or after Monday,

December 17.

Not guilty jury decides Other member agreed the amount of power used at in manslaughter trial A youth defence counsel Ed was "a very narrow escape

Shane described as "the victim of a very tragic ac- that he knew Damery would cident which could happen to not get into similar trouble in later than last year, on or any young person" was found the future. not guilty of manslaughter According to the Centre of charges in Guelph Friday.

Gregory Dale Damery 16, had been taken into custody in the fatal shooting when Christopher James Ayles, 17, of Rockwood who died last September 2.

The jury took nearly five hours to render its verdict. Judge Lloyd Houlden told Damery the jury's verdict

for you" after which he said

Forensic Science firearm expert testimony the shotgun with which young Ayles had been killed had a defective automatic safety mechanism.

Dedication

The Remembrance Day program at the high school of Mr. Smith.



IT WOULD TAKE a giant rabbit to be enticed by these carrots, weighing four and three-quarters, four, and three and a half pounds. Robert Reinink, 17, a grade 13 student at Erin, holds the gigantic vegetables dug on the family farm at R.R. 4, Rockwood. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Reinink have had carrots for years-but never this size. Robert suspects was dedicated to the memory they'll go to the cows rather than the kitchen.

Land sale proceeds

An agreement between the town and Gino Civiero and Paul Nielsen for sale of industrial land on Main N. was approved Tuesday night by council.

Closing date for the agreement was Nov. 1 but both parties had agreed to extension. The present plan of subdivision for the industrial park is in the Land Titles department awaiting approval. The registry office is apparently bogged down and no estimate can be given of how long approval will take. After the administration

committee of council had dis-

cussed the problem at length

with town solicitor Fred

Helson it was decided to issue Hufnagel St. will be changed a new bylaw to amend sec- to Commerce Crescent. The tions of the agreement betthe town during 1973.

bad weather. intend to finalize this World

name change had been apween the two parties, so the proved by the development money would be received by commission at Mr. Nielsen's suggestion and will be placed Council learned the name on the plan of subdivision.

Bikeathon

The late beloved Elmer Smith had done all the preparation for the UNICEF bikeathon, which recently had to be delayed because of

The Acton Y's Men's Club Outlook Project, in memory

of Elmer, who was a dedicated worker on behalf of UNICEF.

The bikeathon will be beld in Acton Park on Sunday. November 18 from 1-3 p.m. All arrangments are to be as previously announced in were located by the boys, and the schools.

Three make restitution

An R.R.4 Acton man found a juvenile bending car aerials in the IGA parking lot one day this week and took him to the police station. It was learned then that three juveniles had been involved in malicious damage, removing gas caps

and breaking aerials, etc. They were taken to their parents, the missing articles restitution was made.