

Pioneer life depicted in play for seven and eight students



CAROUSEL PLAYERS performed at M. Z. Bennett school on Thursday morning for grades seven and eights of M.Z.B. and Robert Little school. The play demonstrated to the audience how the people in the 19th century lived without the modern transportation methods.

Singing, clapping and talking echoed through the hall of the M.Z. Bennett school on Thursday. The Carousel Players of St. Catharines entertained the grades seven and eight students of the hosting school and Robert Little.

The Players, in affiliation with the Creative Arts Enrichment Budget, of Halton Board of Education, are performing in schools in the region with their new

production of "Way to Go." The background of the play was the development of transportation in Ontario during the 19th Century. To make everything seem more realistic, the four men and one woman, dressed in period garb and performed as a theatre in the round, as proprietors of an off-the-beaten-track tavern.

The show was carefully planned to offer the students an authentic glimpse at the

creation of transportation systems in Ontario and their effects on the people of the period.

The students sat on mats on the floor forming a circle around the performers. The actors, as they were doing their monologues, walked amongst the children, engaging them with their speeches.

The mood was set as the performers suddenly became Pied Pipers and led the

children around the gymnasium singing songs and becoming involved in the actual play itself.

Strong voices and broad shoulders depicted the times and characters. Good casting provided the students with an hour of fun and enjoyment.



Dorothy Bennett

News reporter for M.Z. Bennett

The Free Press welcomes another new columnist this week. She is Dorothy Bennett, a grade eight student of the M.Z. Bennett school. Dorothy not only likes writing and reading books but she is interested in many sports. She says basketball is probably her favorite and participates regularly in her school's sports program.

Fourteen years old, the school reporter says her secret ambition is to become a writer some day. It is the reason she gave for volunteering for the new job.

Dorothy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bennett. She has one older sister and two younger brothers.

Robert Little reporter, Merle McNabb submitted her premier column for the first time last week. Both girls plan on keeping residents informed about school happenings, programs and results of competitions. They are both keenly interested in making their columns newsy and hope that fellow students will assist by giving them leads on school stories.

Free Press Youth page

Shelley Young is winner

Shelley Young will proceed on to the North Halton public speaking championship after winning the M. Z. Bennett contest on Monday.

Shelley's speech was on "Tomorrow" with her main theme on how something seemingly ridiculous today, could, tomorrow, be commonplace.

Russ MacNaughton, Mrs. Jean Dunlop and Father Smye were the judges. It was their job to grade the speakers on such divisions as topic matter, organization, treatment of topic, speech delivery, voice, language and overall impression.

Each category was worth a certain number of points, totalling 100. The person who accumulated the most points was the winner.

Topics varied from the Royal Canadian Air Force to television commercials.

Other speakers were Dorsay Mitchell with an account of the time he was a patient in the hospital; Luciano Depieri, giving his opinion of television commer-

cials; Kathy Ewart, telling of her pet dog, Dusty; Jimmie Reynolds, speaking about the RCAF; and Brent Vicker, telling about life with his brothers.

Shelley will repeat her speech today (Wednesday) when the Robert Little school hosts.

Kathy Ewart was the runner up.

M.Z. Bennett weekly news

By Dorothy Bennett

It was public speaking day again on Monday at M.Z. The winner of the contest was Shelley Young and the runner-up was Kathy Ewart. Congratulations, Shelley.

The Carousel Players came to M.Z. to perform for the grade 7 and 8 students of M.Z. and Robert Little. The performance was really good and the teachers and students enjoyed it, especially when everyone got involved.

The student council has planned a snow carnival for grades 6, 7 and 8. It will consist of many teams competing against each other in different events. All this will be held on February 21.

The student council is also planning a trip to Quebec for grades 7 and 8. Despite the cost, many students will be taking part and thanks to the

student council and Mrs. Woods, it will be successful.

Sports

The M.Z. girls played Brookville and defeated them 20 to 16. Even though they didn't win the Red and White Tournament, they have had good success. The team players are Marie Jordan, Jeannette Foster, Michelle Fields, Wanda Timbers, Karen Glenn, Debbie Turkosz, Shelley Young, Karen McCord, and Margaret McDonald.

As for the boys, they played Brookville but lost 16-14. The boys' team consist of Bruce McPhail, Nick Hunenick, Kevin Weir, Jim Thompson, Wade Vicker, Bernie Harding, Bob McClure, Ted Nadlazi, and Frank Van Opstal.

DON'T PANIC

A confident approach, prompt action and efficient handling of a situation inspires confidence in others and lessens anxiety of an injured person. St. John Ambulance advises. Hesitancy and doubt breed panic.

Circus coming to town date set for May 20

The circus is coming to Acton! May 20 has been set for the Royal Bros. three ring circus to visit with their wild animals, clowns and performers.

The Acton Chamber of Commerce has booked the group and plans to hold the event in Prospect Park. It is the only tented circus in Canada and will be visiting Acton for the first time.

Capacity The tent holds 1,500 people.

and two performances will be held, allowing 3,000 people to see the show. However, if enough tickets are sold, there will be a third show.

"No one will be turned away," Mike Worthington, president of the Chamber of Commerce, said.

Permission has been granted from the Halton Hills Recreation Committee, the Ontario Provincial Police and the Acton fire department to hold the circus.

In the weeks prior to the show, the Royal Bros. will be holding a coloring contest for the school children. Pictures will be passed out in the schools and the best colorer will receive a prize, at the circus.

It will also be possible to have free tours of the circus as it is being set up, according to Mr. Worthington. This would give the children a chance to see how much work goes on behind the scenes.

It is hoped by Mr. Worthington and other members of the Chamber, that the people of Acton will patronize this circus, instead of going out of town, which would probably cost more money.

"It is going to cost \$1.50 each for this circus, compared to \$2 in nearby places," pointed out Mr. Worthington. "And there will be no transportation worries. May is circus month in this region, and ours will be unique."

No grants available community schools

Halton Board of Education is not eligible for grants under the province's Community Schools program. The province accepted grant applications several weeks ago and advised the various boards of the program.

The grants were set up to provide start-up money for special programs that would see an increase in community school programs and increase in the community use of schools.

The board made

application for 13 projects it wanted to see started. Assistant Director Em Lavender said he had been advised by a ministry official that the Halton Board was so far ahead of other boards in that field, that the ministry officials couldn't justify granting money for the Halton Board.

Director Jim Singleton explained the intent of the program was to stimulate more use of schools and the ministry felt the money could do more in other areas than it could in Halton.

SNOWMOBILE CLUBS

An Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs has been organized and has about 8,000 members. The Federation is currently attempting to double its membership. About 120 clubs are members.



AHS Notes

by Marg Jongama

On Monday, February 17, photographs were taken of all the organizations, teams and clubs. Some of those taken were the Drama Club, The Guitar Club, The Swim Team, The Closet staff and many more.

On Thursday 17 students from our swim team will be attending the swim meet called Milton Court Championships. This will be an all-day outing for the swimmers. Good luck.

On Friday, Louise Gatenby will be going to Hespeler with 40 grade nine Home Economic students. The students will be going to

Dominion Mills to see the production of cloth. At the mill the students will have an opportunity to buy fabric and a pattern which will be used in their class.

An increasing number of parents are volunteering their services as assistants in the high school. Presently four people are involved as assistants in the resource centre and one in the reading room. Mr. Ellis reports that he is greatly impressed with the kind of work these parents are doing. Anyone interested in volunteering their services should call Mr. Ellis at the high school.

News from Robert Little

By Merle McNabb

Mrs. Gregg and Mr. Coleman have started most of their gym classes with gymnastics. From the climbing apparatus to the floor mats there is jumping, rolling and many more things to do.

The grade eights are making a lot of progress with their Hot Dog Days. Each student has a choice of hot-dogs, milk and donuts. The proceeds to to the grade eight

trip to Ottawa.

Both Robert Little and M.Z. grades 7 and 8 enjoyed a morning of listening and helping the group Carousel Players perform a play called "Way to Go". The play was about young travellers who start a settlement.

The North Halton public speaking championships are being held this afternoon in the auditorium.

Can't sell old schools for \$1

Halton Board of Education could not sell Norval and Chapel St. schools for \$1 even if it wanted to, Georgetown area trustee, Ernie Bodnar, told the Board Thursday.

Halton Hills Council has pressed for a directive from the provincial cabinet that would see the schools returned to the community with the only charge being the costs of improvements to the schools and grounds since the ownership was assumed by the board.

Bodnar read the regulations and noted the board must abide by them when it decides to sell a school. The regulations indicated the school must be offered to a number of government agencies at market value before it can be sold on an open market.



SINGING for a drink was the only woman in the Carousel Players group. She portrayed the tavern owner's wife.

Award won by Acton student

Last Wednesday, Margaret Caswell of Acton was the recipient of a \$50 scholarship donated by the Canadian Food Executives Association. The award was presented for outstanding academic achievement. Ms. Caswell is enrolled in the Hotel and Restaurant Administration course at the Sheridan Brampton campus.

Ten other Applied Arts students from Brampton also received scholarships, which were donated from business and industry.

The awards were presented following a brief introduction by John Page, Dean of Applied and Liberal Studies, and remarks by B.C. Wray, Vice-president of Administration and Development at Sheridan College.

Tinkerbell gets grant

The Tinkerbell Nursery for the mentally retarded has been given the funds to buy educational toys and teaching aids for an additional eight children. The Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services last week approved in principle the request for \$700 by the nursery located at the Ernest C. Drury School.

There are presently 19 children enrolled at Tinkerbell Nursery, with a capacity for 45. Started by director Jennifer Kuiken of Acton four years ago, the nursery moved to Milton last fall after being located in Georgetown.

Tinkerbell Nursery is part of the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded.

Scout and Guide news

By Mark Howe

We are now in Scout and Guide Week. This week is celebrated annually by Scouts and Guides the world over, to commemorate the birthday of the founder Lieutenant General Lord Sir Robert Baden-Powell of Gilwell. He shared his birthday of February 22 with his wife Olive, Lady Baden-Powell. She is the Chief Guide of the world. Their birthday is known as Thinking Day to Brownies and Guides.

To celebrate this week, Scouts and Guides have put up an exhibit in the windows of Acton Barber shop and the Pizza Palace. The proprietors kindly donated the space.

Tuesday night was the Scout and Guide Banquet. Four hundred parents, children and leaders feasted on a turkey dinner at the legion hall provided by the Scout and Guide mothers and volunteers. Friday all members of the organizations will be wearing their uniforms to school to celebrate the birthday. Boys, remember not to wear your hats in school.

Bazaar

Saturday the Guides and Brownies are holding a bazaar at the Y.M.C.A. from 11 in the morning till three in the afternoon. Please come down and support their groups. Sunday afternoon is the district-wide Church parade at Holy Cross Church.

Credit Valley "Come Along"

On February 23, the Credit Valley Conservation Authority will be sponsoring a "Come Along" at the Terra Cotta Conservation Area.

Activities will include a sleigh ride, skating, snow shoeing and cross-country skiing, weather permitting. Hot food and drinks will be provided by the Kentner Catering Service.

The previous "Come Along" on February 2 was a great success, with 3,000 people in attendance.

in Georgetown. Members are to be at the Scout hall, in full dress uniform by 12:45 p.m. The bus leaves at one o'clock.

Saturday afternoon approximately 35 Cubs, Scouts and leaders visited the Halton County Radial Museum near Rockwood. They rode up and down a one mile track in an old electric streetcar. The tour was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone that attended.

Saturday night Scout leaders and a Venturer attended the Mississauga district Gang Show 75. One hundred Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and leaders made up the very talented cast. We have yet to see a stage performance that equals this show. It is a special British Scout show that even the Queen has seen. If an opportunity for you to attend one should arise please go at all cost, whether you are in Scouting or not.



AS PART OF Scout and Guide Week across Canada, the Acton Scouts erected displays in local merchants' store windows. Brownie uniforms, toadstools, owls, flags and badges can be seen.

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