

# The Acton Free Press

One Hundredth Year - No. 43

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1976

SECOND SECTION

## Thunder, lightning, wind

The weekend spring storm and winds did some damage in this district and caused watery and bumpy road conditions. The spring thaw was followed by a drenching rainfall Friday night that included rolling thunder and lightning for over an hour. Saturday brought high winds and some hail.

Other municipalities fared much worse than Acton and road conditions in the countryside north of here were worse than in this area.

Basements of houses in low lying areas, such as Cobblehill Rd., were flooded.

**Fourth line**  
A group of residents on the fourth line, about a mile north of the highway, found a small lake covering the front of their property Saturday. Friday night's rain swelled the winter runoff to the properties, which adjoin low-lying land.

Most water lay on the properties of D. Rogers and L. Nadhazi, but they were able to drive out through the water later Saturday. Their driveways were visible again by Monday.

The water flooded out onto the roadway and Halton Hills workmen put up a barricade with flashing lights Saturday. Monday they dumped fill and graded the low part of the road.

Traffic was never halted on the fourth line. It's expected a culvert will be installed.

**Branches fall**  
Branches toppled and garden sheds were sent flying. A huge chestnut tree at the home of Mike and Willy De Jong, Church St., lost one of its heavy limbs. Luckily their three children were inside at the time, since the branch smashed onto their driveway and front sidewalk.

**Poor welcome**  
Jerry Clayton and his wife Ruth came into Acton Friday evening to see about renting an apartment here. And they didn't get a pleasant welcome.

As they were returning home, and the car was slowed down to make the turn at the corner of Church and John, the front right tire suddenly plunged almost three feet through the road surface. Mrs. Clayton was thrown forward and hit the dashboard,

but wasn't injured.

They were thankful they hadn't been heading straight down the road at higher speed, as other cars had been doing all through the storm that night. Mr. Clayton thinks such an accident at higher speed would have turned the car right over, and thrown the passenger through the windshield.

Neighbors contacted police through the Milton Zenith number.

**Gas**  
The car's gas line had broken and the gas had poured into the ragged hole. The fire chief couldn't be reached so the tow truck operator took a chance and hauled out the car.

Two men on the Halton Hills staff arrived to put up a barricade one and a half hours later.

The next morning about 10.30 a.m. a Halton Hills truck loaded with fill for the hole drew up beside the problem site—and plunged through the road surface itself.

Children were able to kick in the edges of the holes, as the excavation beneath was empty of fill. Storm sewers had been installed at the corner last fall.

Workmen left the scene and for awhile, during noon hour traffic from Beardmore, a helpful 10-year-old lad Paul Debenham, stepped out and directed traffic most capably.

More men and machines arrived to town to tow the town truck and fill the cave in with gravel. Other spots on Church St. were filled at the same time.

There are many holes and dips in the road surface. Church St. is due for repaving soon.

**Power flicker**  
Power flickered off momentarily Friday night during the downpour. The cause was not local.

There was no particular problem with flooding reported to the Acton O.P.P. or Milton detachment which patrols the rural area of Halton.

High water levels were experienced along the Credit but there was no particular problem in Glen Williams.

Rockwood and Eden Mills experienced high water levels but nothing very serious occurred.



SUPERINTENDENTS OF the Grand River Conservation Authority were on overnight call in Eramosa during the weekend flood alert. Roads that had been open on Friday were flooded in some areas by early Saturday morning. The

Erin-Eramosa town line below Highway 24 was completely inundated for several hours. By Sunday morning it was once again passable but required gravel on Monday to cover washouts along the side of the road.



ANGRY WATERS DASHED over the dam at the Rockwood conservation park last Saturday morning. Officials of the G.R.C.A. were on overnight vigil in preparation for emergency flood measures. The dam at Everton, where

waters were previously below summer water level, had to be let out so that Friday's torrential rains and run-offs could be released to alleviate damage to the Everton Road.



WATER SURROUNDS the exterior of a house on Mill St. Saturday. The Allen basement was flooded with water and Ted Allen says his new \$1400 furnace, bought in October, is ruined.



IN POURING rain, Raymond Toth figures how best to tow this car out of a sudden hole at Church and John Friday night. More caveins followed. Driver was Jerry Clayton, R. R. 1.

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HALTON HILLS truck, sent from Georgetown with a load to fill a cavein (left) at the corner of Church and John, itself smashed through the

weakened roadway, Saturday morning. A storm sewer had been installed here in the fall. More workmen and trucks came to the rescue.



WATER SPURTS from hose as Ted Allen pumps out the flooded basement of his house on Mill St. His new \$1400 furnace was ruined.



NINE MILES per hour? Don't try it. This sign flipped in Saturday's wind.



LIMB OF chestnut tree crashed to the ground Saturday at the De Jong home on Church St.



WITH TRUCK blocking traffic across Church St. Saturday and no help in sight, Paul Debenham, 10, stepped out and directed traffic.